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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT
AND
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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT

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1976

STATE OF MONTANA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
P. O. Box 1728
HELENA



MARCH

1978

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT



RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, Montana
59601

and Labor

MONTANA
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RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION
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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 1978

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID E. FULLER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
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Volume 8 Number 3

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Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
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Employment and Training Administration

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.
2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.
3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).
4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.
5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.
6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.
7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.
8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.
9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.
10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.
11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.
13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.
14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

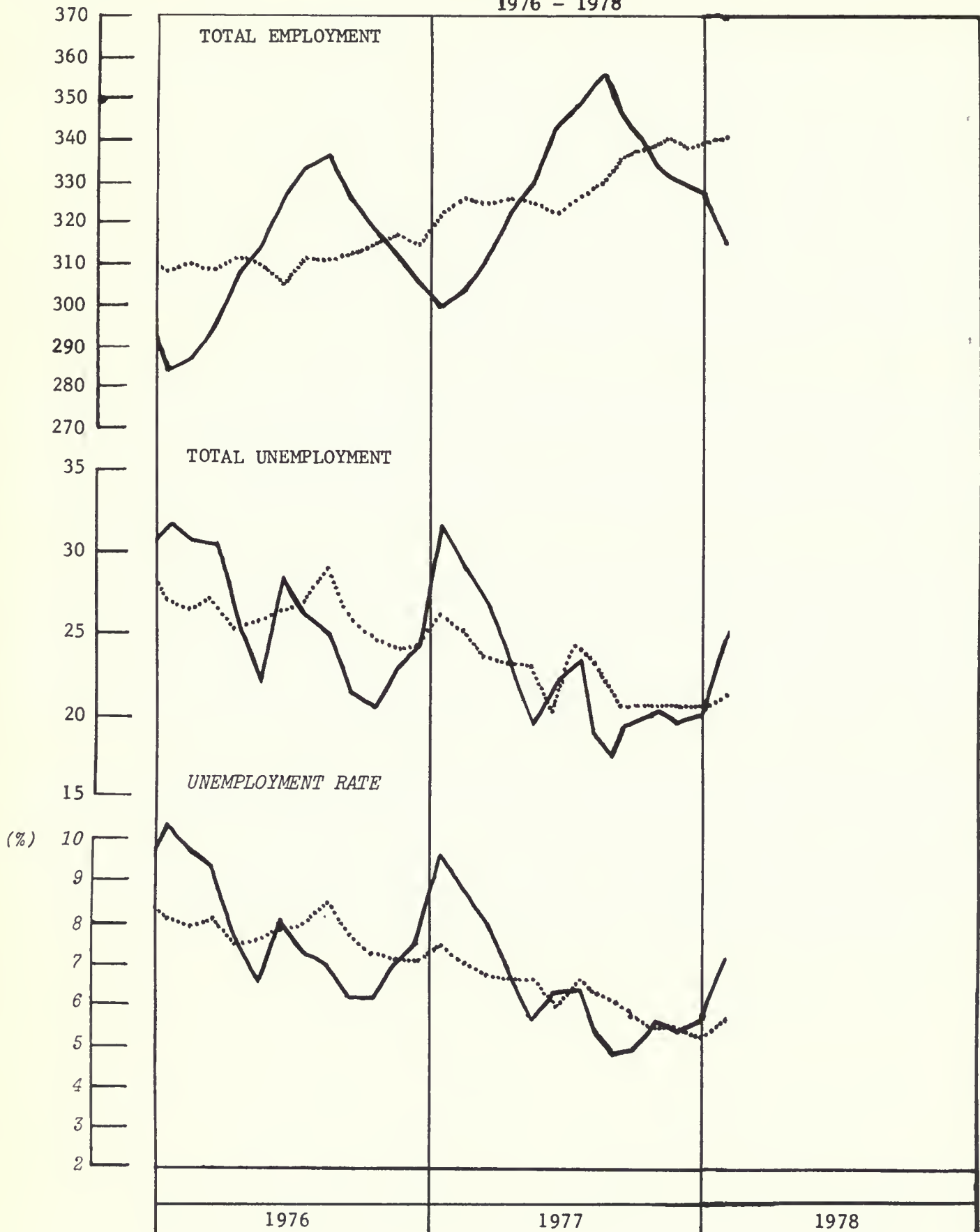
MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: _____)

(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED:)

1976 - 1978

(Thousands)



STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS



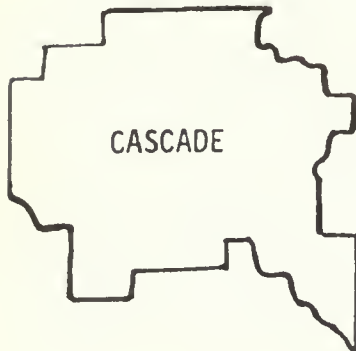
In February Montana's economy appeared to make its first move toward a seasonal upturn. Employment expanded by 2,600 individuals and unemployment fell by almost 2,000. These shifts in the civilian labor force left the monthly rate of unemployment at 6.9%, a healthy decrease from the 7.5% rate recorded in January and the 8.2% rate of February 1977. The basic industrial profile in terms of employment underwent no significant changes during the month as limited increases were felt throughout the non-agricultural industries. The agricultural sector made the largest contribution to employment increases. Here, over 2,000 workers returned to work during the period.

As winter ends the initial stimulus to the economy normally comes from the construction industry. Data on building permits and employment levels have demonstrated positive movement recently. Thus, no deviation from seasonal trend is expected. However, after two consecutive banner years for home building, further expansion of the industry on a state-wide basis seems unlikely. Certain areas of concentrated population and economic growth will be exceptions, but the aggregate demand will reflect the return to a stable trend in housing construction.

While the construction industry builds momentum in the economy, manufacturing should experience a slight seasonal downturn in terms of employment. Already, some employment decreases have been noticed because of the shut down of sugar beet processing operations in eastern Montana. In the western section of the state the lumber and wood products industry must gear down as spring thaw impedes the normal flow of trucks and machinery in the woods. However, these situations are temporary, and by June logging activity should restore many of the employment losses encountered during spring.

Overall, the economy has displayed no unanticipated moves during the past two months. An explanation could be that heavy seasonal activity camouflages subtle changes in the economy and makes definitive analysis difficult. Another explanation is that the economy is in a dormant stage, and by definition, there is little activity of economic significance that is identifiable. Whatever the reason, one thing is clear: No basic shifts in the state of the economy have been detected. Thus, at least in the short run, the economy is unlikely to exhibit any signs of departure from the conditions of the previous two years.

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

At 33,900, the civilian labor force in the Great Falls area during February reached its lowest level of the past ten years. This occurrence is normal for the time of year, however, and compared with labor force figures of one year ago, a healthy five percent increase has taken place.

Employment posted a very slight decline from January's level, and currently stands at 31,500. Unemployment too, decreased by 100 persons, with a net effect of decreasing the area's rate of unemployment from 7.5% last month, to a present rate of 7.0%.

Reports from the Great Falls office of the Job Service indicate that the level of unemployment insurance claims is normal for this time of year. With the onset of a general warming trend in the weather, a decrease in the claim load is anticipated, particularly among construction workers.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

All aspects of the local economy appear to be gearing up for the arrival of spring in Montana. Recent reports indicate that the demand for workers in nearly all industrial sectors is already increasing on a weekly basis, with the continuing presence of warmer weather in the area. Placement of people in the agricultural and wholesale and retail trade sectors has been prominent, but as previously suggested, the construction industry has shown the greatest increase in the number of recalls and new hires of workers. One estimate placed the number of construction recalls at 200 during a recent week.

The opening of new businesses in the SMSA appears to be off to another strong start in 1978. To date this year, 78 new firms have begun operating, compared with 76 after the same two months of 1977. New business formations in the previous year reached record levels throughout the state, and if January and February of this year are any indication of future trends, new businesses should be a very positive factor in the economy of Great Falls.

Generally, the economic sluggishness which normally accompanies winter in Montana is beginning to exercise less influence on conditions in this SMSA. The labor market in particular should be the first area to experience a loosening atmosphere in the coming weeks, in anticipation of diverse economic factors adhering to more positive seasonal characteristics.

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

February's labor force statistics revealed mixed economic results in this area. On the positive side, the jobless rate fell to 5.3%, following January's 5.7% rate. These two months are normally the peak months of joblessness, because of the seasonal nature of several Montana Industries. As such, an unemployment rate below 6% can only be viewed as positive and it appears that 1978 is off to an even better year than last, in terms of labor force employability. In comparison, the rate of unemployment reached 6.5% in 1977 and 8.1% in January 1976.

The civilian labor force stood at 50,100 in February, which is less than one percent above the figure for the same month last year. And although two months data is hardly enough to establish a trend, any slowdown in the rate of job expansion could effect a reversal in the declining unemployment rolls.

Among the major industrial sectors, there was some employment gains experienced, with trade rising 600 over February 1977, and construction and transportation both rose 300 above February 1977 levels.

At this time, the Billings labor market could only be described as excellent, with the demand and supply of labor in near equilibrium condition.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A total of 69 building permits were issued in the Billings SMSA during the month of February. This brought the year-to-date total to 116 permits, which is considerably off the pace of a year ago, when 206 permits were issued for the two month period. Many leading economists expect a slight decline in building activity for 1978, because of rising interest rates and falling loanable reserves. However, early 1978 data for Billings could have been affected by one of the most severe winters in recent years. Therefore, the data for March and April will likely provide a better indication of building activity for this area during 1978. Major new projects for the month include the following: 38 new single family dwellings, three new 10-plexes, a six-plex, an addition to a manufacturing-warehouse facility, a new carpet-warehouse center and a new school.

New car and truck registrations for the first two months of this year totaled 806, which represents a 3.9% gain over the same period a year ago. After lagging sales in almost every area of the state during 1977, the improvement is a welcome sign for the Billings area; and if the upward trend continues, new car sales could shore up any slack in other sectors of durable good sales. This would be particularly important if the housing boom falls off, as carpets, appliances, furniture, and other home related goods would also negatively be affected. And although almost no one in Montana expects a serious slack in housing demand for the Billings area during 1978, many expect problems by 1979.

The Billings retail sector still remains active, with the opening of a new restaurant in a shopping center in the west end. The restaurant conducted interviews for the hiring of 65-70 employees. Construction continues on two other restaurants in the city, both in the western part of Billings.

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County) (Cont.)

Besides the ongoing construction of two smaller shopping centers and an addition on another, word has been received that another will be constructed in the western edge of the city. The center will be built on a 12 acre lot, where an existing outdoor theatre is located. Details on the number of stores that will be located in the complex will be revealed in a later issue. There is so much activity in this field, (shopping centers) that it actually becomes quite confusing when mentioning one center or the other. Regardless, the retail sector continues to augment the business expansion of the Billings area.

ANACONDA - BUTTE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

February's data revealed no change in the rate of unemployment for this labor market area, logging at 8.1%. Keeping with recent months, only Kalispell had a higher rate of unemployment during February. There was some improvement since last February, however, when the rate stood at 9.8%. The actual number of unemployed totaled 2,700 workers for the six county area, of which nearly 60% were from Silver Bow County.

The employment situation also looked somewhat better than last year, with a total of 31,100 workers, up 4%, and even the labor force was 2.1% ahead of the same month a year ago. As such all three components of the labor force showed improvement, which usually denotes an expanding economy. However, it must be kept in mind, that the jobless rate is still high for this labor area, when compared against the state as a whole, which experienced a 6.9% rate.

The individual area situations were as diverse as their industrial makeups. The jobless rate varied from a 3.8% rate in Madison County, which is primarily an agricultural and trade oriented economy to rates of 9.4% and 8.9% for Silver Bow and Deer Lodge Counties, with economies based on mining and manufacturing.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

It was recently announced that the various projects associated with the Magnetohydrodynamics operation, (M.H.D.), would be spending an additional 30 million dollars in the Butte area. An independent but related facility will have a construction work force of about 150 persons working this summer on their facility. In an area plagued by setbacks in the copper industry, this project has been welcome economic news. Although temporary in nature, the construction phase has also helped alleviate unemployment among area craft workers.

Another bright spot in the Butte economy for 1978 is the anticipated banner year in home building. Local bankers expect a need in excess of 100 new homes in the area. This situation is just one of the noted secondary benefits of the M.H.D. project, which is fueling demand in various aspects of the market place. Nevertheless, construction activity is expected to resume peak levels soon after the weather allows. A further stimulus to this industry could be felt if the proposed renovation of the downtown area is enacted.

The addition to the bleak copper market, the Butte community did receive another blow as the telephone company transferred its operator service to Helena, and the employment service received 16 unemployment claims by employees desiring to remain in Butte.

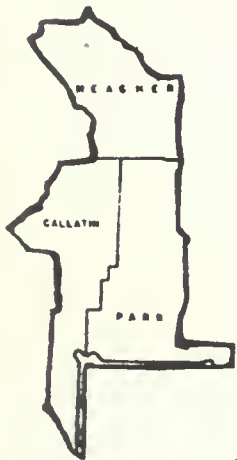
ANACONDA - BUTTE LMA (Cont.)

The economic health of Anaconda is not exactly good. The area copper firm continues to lay off workers at the Arbiter Plant. The plant is shutting down operations because of the above mentioned copper situation. Also, the logging, construction and agricultural industries are all at yearly low points, due to inclement weather. As such, retail sales have not been steady either. The lone bright spot in the local economy is the ski-recreation industry, which noted an excellent year.

The situation in the southern end of the labor area is somewhat better, as building activity is active in Dillon. Work continues on a 51 unit apartment complex, 18 homes, and a new mini-mall. Also, plans have been announced for the construction of a million dollar motel in Dillon. The structure would include 60 units, a lounge, cafe and convention room.

BOZEMAN LMA

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:



The employment situation in the Bozeman labor area appears to be starting its seasonal improvement trend this month, exhibiting positive movements in each relevant gauge of work activity.

The civilian labor force increased by two-hundred over the past month, reaching a February level of 24,500 persons. Not only does this represent an improvement over last month, but last year as well. In February 1977 the labor force had 1000 fewer members than it currently does.

The number of people currently employed increased by 300 over the previous month, while those who did not hold jobs decreased by 100. These shifts, in turn, caused a drop in the area's rate of unemployment from 6.3% in January to 5.8% this month. Once again, comparison of figures on a yearly basis reveals even more substantial improvement, with a full 2.0% decline in the unemployment rate over the past twelve months.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

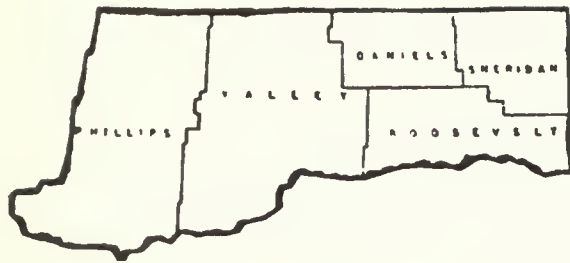
The economy of the tri-county LMA will begin its seasonal climb in the coming weeks. Until recently, the effects of winter have been felt throughout the area; however, a sustained warming trend in the weather has begun to stir the sluggish atmosphere.

Agricultural hiring is reported to be on the upswing in anticipation of the coming calving season. At the present time this industrial sector is the only one which is experiencing its seasonal hiring increase, but construction hiring should follow closely, experiencing very substantial rises in employment.

New business formations are off to a relatively slow start this year. Thus far, 77 firms have started operations in the region compared with 82 during the first two months of 1977. In February alone, 40 new firms were established, although this number, too, is lower than the number recorded in February 1977.

Despite these current business conditions, at least one bright spot has emerged with the announcement of a proposed factory located in Manhattan. If approved, the business will manufacture and sell cabinets, and employ 25 individuals.

GLASGOW LMA



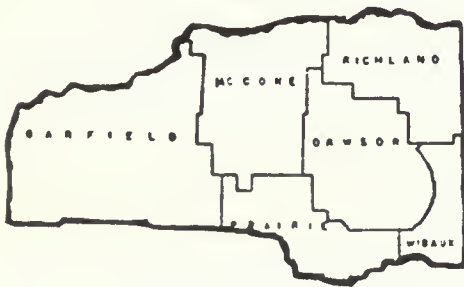
Employment and Unemployment Situation:

On the surface the expansion of the civilian labor force during the past twelve months in this labor market area has paralleled statewide labor force growth. The statewide growth was based on a 5.4% increase in employment and a 11.9% decrease in the number of unemployed. This LMA fared much better as employment increases reached 6.2% and unemployment dropped by 23.1%. Over 300 less individuals were without jobs this February than in the same month a year ago. Consequently, the February rate for this year is much lower (6.4%) than the 8.0% rate for 1977.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Economic development in the area remains hinged on the activities at the proposed industrial park as negotiations continue with prospective businesses. Apart from this the most noteworthy news is the ameliorating weather conditions. As a result of these conditions, outdoor work has resumed, providing the seasonal impact needed to expand the job market. Construction should be particularly influenced. Residential as well as commercial projects are expected to eliminate the present slack in the demand for qualified workers.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force declined again during February, settling at 13,600 individuals in this six-county area. The decrease was accompanied by a 100 person drop in the ranks of the employed, which now totals 12,900. These negative shifts will be temporary, however, and what is more important is the fact that compared with figures from February 1977, the civilian labor force and total employment have increased by 5.4% and 6.6% respectively.

The unemployment rate in the LMA has also improved significantly on a year-to-year basis, dropping from 6.1% in February last year, to a current rate of 5.1%.

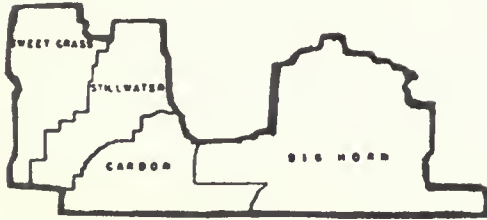
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In spite of severe winter weather conditions in this part of the state, new business formations have gotten off to a strong start in 1978. Fourteen new firms were established in February, while only five were started during the same month last year. Furthermore, the year-to-date total is more than twice the number registered in the same period last year.

Other economic and employment factors have remained under the residual influence of a hard winter. Although industry will certainly increase in the coming weeks, recent conditions have kept the economy moving at a fairly slow pace in every sector.

HARDIN - RED LODGE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:



At 7.3%, the jobless rate remains seasonally high for this four-county area, although it did drop slightly from January's 7.8% rate. The unemployment situation varied from county to county within the LMA, with the highest rates attributed to Big Horn and Carbon counties at 8.8% and 7.8% respectively, whereas, Stillwater and Sweet Grass counties both experienced rates below 5.5%. The actual number of unemployed totaled 800 workers, unchanged from the same month a year ago, and down 100 from last month.

The civilian labor force numbered 11,480 potential workers, which represents a slight expansion from February last year, when 11,000 workers participated in the job market. At the same time, 10,600 persons actually held jobs in February.

The early months of a new year are traditionally the peak months of unemployment (on a percentage basis), because weather conditions force work slowdowns in several of Montana's basic industries. As such, the above rates should be viewed without too much alarm. Also, the bulk of the unemployment problem is concentrated in the two largest counties, leaving Stillwater and Sweet Grass counties with respectable unemployment levels for this time of year. However, it should be noted that the labor area as a whole, experienced an unemployment rate that slightly exceeded the statewide average of 6.9%.

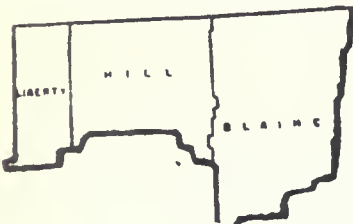
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

During the first two months of 1978, 58 new cars and 56 new trucks were registered in this labor market area. In comparison with the same period a year ago, both categories showed declines, 8% for new cars and 21% for new trucks. This is not particularly good news in light of 1977's 22% downturn in new car registrations.

Some alleviation of unemployment in Big Horn county, could be noticed as funding is pending state approval for the creation of 11 new jobs in various county departments. Salaries for the positions are not to exceed \$90,000, if the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) funding is approved. Under the same federal program, \$200,000 is expected to be allocated to the four counties in this area, along with Yellowstone County, for youth human resources programs.

HAVRE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:



The civilian labor force stood at 12,800 persons in February for this three-county area, representing a 5.8% gain from the 12,100 level for the same month last year. This is a very healthy growth rate and was only exceeded by three other major labor markets in the state. The number of employed workers reached 12,000, up 100 from last month, and 700 from a year ago.

HAVRE LMA (Cont.)

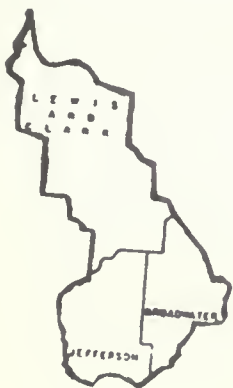
In regard to unemployment, February's rate fell to 6.1% of the labor force, after posting a 6.4% rate last month, and 6.8% for February 1977. As with most of the other areas in the state, the Havre labor market area seems off to another year of improvement in the labor market. In fact, this area has also steadily gained in numbers of employed workers since the peak of the 1974-1975 recession. Just how long this trend will continue is a subject of diverse opinion. History points to a slowdown in economic growth some 35-45 months after the peak of a recession, and we are now entering that stage in this particular recovery. Although business still appears strong, any slack will have negative affects on a growing labor force.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

New business formations are off to another year of gains, with the total for the first two months of the year up 53% from comparable year ago figures. So far this year 26 new businesses have been formed in the three-county area. Hill county is expected to have some notable increases in business formations throughout 1977, because of the construction of a new shopping center and a downtown mall in Havre. The two complexes will have enough room for up to 40 enterprises at each complex. The addition of these trade centers are expected to bring in shoppers from other hi-line areas, and would go a long way toward making Havre a sub-regional trade center. One shopping center alone is expected to increase sales 35-to-40% above the current level for the city.

New vehicle registrations have not fared so well, as car registrations are down 13%, and truck registrations are 10% below the first two months of 1977. This trend has been particularly noticed in other of the state's agricultural based counties. As such, the definite possibility exists that the low agricultural crop prices are having a direct affect on vehicle sales.

HELENA LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The employment situation in the Helena LMA exhibited mild improvements in February. The civilian labor force declined by 100 persons from January's total, leaving 25,600 potential workers this month. Although this slight reduction took place, the employment level remained unchanged at 24,100 individuals. This represents a 5.7% increase in employment over the total recorded in February 1977.

The unemployment situation also improved this month, with the number of people on the jobless rolls falling by 100, to a present level of 1500 persons. During February one year ago, the same number of individuals were out of work.

The unemployment rate resulting from these moderate labor market shifts is 6.0%, which compares favorably with January's rate of 6.4%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Helena area economy withstood the rigors of winter as well or better than most other areas of the state. A variety of building projects have kept many tradesmen and some laborers busy throughout the past few months of harsh weather, working on the interiors of numerous structures. Job openings with the state government have helped maintain a relatively stable employment picture as well.

HELENA LMA (CONT.)

Work in secretarial and professional occupations, particularly, has been available to qualified applicants, and employment reports further indicate prospects for healthy levels of job placement activity in the coming weeks.

New business firms in the area totaled 37 for the month of February. This number shows strong improvement over the previous month's total of 25, and a moderate gain from the 33 formations registered in February 1977. If these early trends are maintained, the number of new business firms in the labor area should again provide a very positive economic gauge.

KALISPELL LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor pool for this three-county labor market area totaled 32,400 persons in February, which is 4.2% higher than the same month a year ago. The number of employed persons declined 200 from last month, settling at 29,100 workers. However, this is a considerable gain (7.4%) from February 1977, when the employment count numbered 27,100 workers.

The unemployment situation showed improvement from both last month and a year ago. The three counties comprising this labor area combined for an unemployment rate of 10.3% for February, which compares favorably against January's 11.1% rate, as well as the 12.8% mark recorded for February one year ago. The actual number of jobless workers also pointed to the improvement, falling 400 from last month to 3300 persons. The problem remains in that by any standard of measurement, this area still suffers from an over supply of labor in relation to available job opportunities, and while there is no doubt that progress has been at an almost steady rate since the peak of the recession, solutions are still needed to bring the labor market in balance.

In the longer term some help could come, if early trends for 1978 hold throughout the year. Throughout 1977, the Kalispell area simultaneously experienced a declining labor force and a drop in unemployment. So far this year the trend has changed, in that the unemployment rate is still showing improvement. At the same time, the labor force appears to be expanding again. If employment opportunities continue to meet this expansion, the Kalispell area may begin to solve some of its structural unemployment problems, as in any economy employment growth remains as a foundation for business expansion.

In regard to this situation, it should also be stated that not all three counties share the same degree of unemployment. Lincoln county continues to note higher rates (13.1% for February) than either Flathead (9.7%) or Lake County (9.1%).

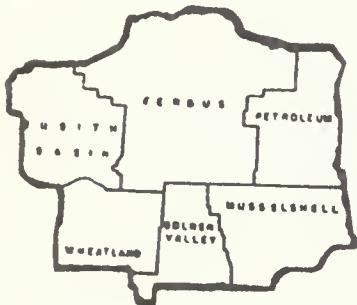
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

During February, several major industries in the Kalispell area were still suffering from inclement weather shutting down some construction projects, logging operations and other outdoor related enterprises. The situation is not expected to improve much for loggers in the near future, as area mills already have an oversupply of timber. Also, the annual "spring breakup" should force those loggers with contracts out of the woods during the latter part of March and early April.

KALISPELL LMA (CONT.)

At the sawmills, activities remain fairly stable with the exception of a minority of the firms which laid off workers because of production cutbacks. In general, lumber prices remain strong, as does demand. This industry is heavily dependent upon the homebuilding market, and as such, the area business community will be closely following building activity during 1978. The home industry is traditionally quite cyclical in nature and sharp rises in interest rates or cutbacks in money supply could end the boom experienced since mid-1975.

LEWISTOWN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force registered an increase of 100 persons from January, bringing February's total to 9,900. This, in turn, translates into a 4.2% advance from the level recorded in February, one year ago. Employment, too, seems to be on the rise, reaching 9,200 persons this month compared with only 9,000 during January.

The number of people who are unemployed also took a turn for the better, declining by 100 to a current total of 700 individuals.

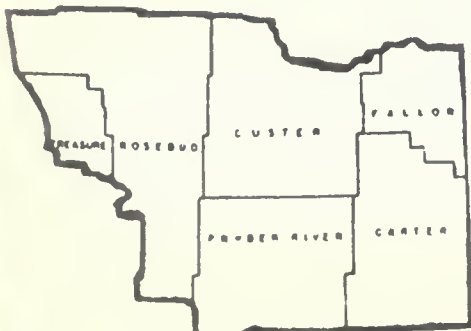
These positive changes produced an LMA unemployment rate of 7.1% for February, which amounts to a full 1.1% reduction from January's rate. This decline is particularly noteworthy, as it is the most substantial unemployment rate reduction of any labor market area in Montana this month.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

As is the case in most other parts of the state, the weather continues to dictate the amount of economic activity taking place. Reports from the Local Job Service office suggest current stability in most industrial sectors, and the first signs of the seasonal resurgence of the construction industry.

One indicator of economic conditions was not so positive this month. The number of new businesses in the area during February was seven; during the same month last year the total was thirteen. Furthermore, the 1978 year-to-date total is 30.0% below 1977's comparable figure. The reasons for this turn of events are unclear, and in light of the short time involved, no conclusions should be drawn at this point.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Following the statewide trend the civilian labor force in the Miles City labor market area began its seasonal enlargement during the past few months. Employment rose by over 300 from January to February and increases in March are virtually assured.

MILES CITY LMA (CONT.)

The unemployment rate dropped to 5.6% in February after reaching 6.4% in January, historically the peak month for jobless levels. Custer and Rosebud counties, the two largest in the LMA in terms of population, recorded the largest number of unemployed in the area with identical rates of 5.9%, the highest in the LMA. Only one county, Fallon, posted an increase in unemployment from January to February as the percentage of unemployed edged upward to 4.9% from 4.6% during the period.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

As warmer weather returns to the area, signs of a seasonally improving economy begin to become apparent. Reports from the local Job Service mention some increase in the number of job openings. As expected, the demand is primarily for outdoor related work with some openings in the retail and service industries. Calving and irrigation system maintenance should provide additional demand in the agricultural sector.

Much of the economic optimism in the area is attributable to activity in two industries. One is the construction industry which will be further bolstered this spring by the expansion at the community college in Miles City. The other is agriculture, where live-stock prices have seen some positive movement in recent months. If building activity can be sustained and agriculture makes any kind of recovery, the Miles City LMA should easily maintain the rate of economic growth of the previous two years.

MISSOULA LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Current conditions in the Missoula Labor market offer a generally positive picture of employment and unemployment. Although slight reductions in the civilian labor force and employment took place from last month's levels, year-to-year improvements in these areas have been substantial.

At 45,700, February's civilian labor force is 6.0% greater than the total in the same month last year. Total employment registered an even greater gain of 8.8% over the previous year, reaching a February plateau of 42,200 persons. These changes, along with 800 fewer individuals on the jobless rolls this February than last, has resulted in a rate of unemployment of 7.7% this month - a net reduction of 2.3% from February 1978.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

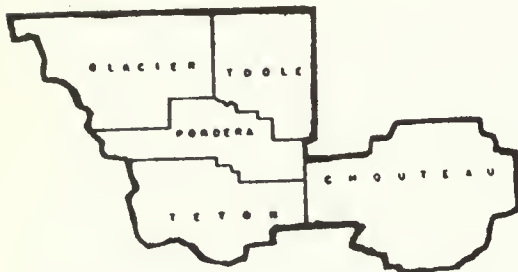
- Activity in the Missoula LMA has been mixed during recent weeks. Building projects in this area have been sustained to a seemingly greater degree than in many other parts of the state this winter, with previously started projects accounting for much of the activity.
- Among the more notable new undertakings is the expansion of facilities at the Missoula Community Hospital. Work has already begun on the building, and has an estimated cost of nearly \$2 Million. With the onset of warmer weather the construction sector is expected to begin increasing its project load with even more contracts coming in.

Logging, on the other hand, has experienced some work slowdowns lately, attributable to poor road and weather conditions. The usual spring breakup should further hamper logging operations in the coming weeks.

MISSOULA LMA (CONT.)

New business formations are a very positive economic indicator for the area this month. Seventy-four firms began operation in the past four weeks compared with fifty-six during February 1977. On a year-to-date basis, the number of new firms is already 37.4% ahead of last year's pace.

SHELBY - CUT BANK LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In February, the civilian labor force stood at 16,400, up 1,100 persons from the same month last year. This represents an annual growth rate of 7.2%, which is the highest percentage growth of any labor market area in the state. Those holding jobs in the five-county area numbered 15,200, up 200 from January's level. In comparison with a year ago, all of the 1,100 worker expansion in the labor force was reflected in the employment ranks, as unemployment remained the same at 1,200 workers. February's areawide

unemployment rate averaged 7.3%, which is a seasonal improvement from last month's 8.1% rate. And in February 1977, 7.6% of the civilian labor force was out of work.

Among individual counties, the degree of unemployment varied widely, with only Glacier County noting a rate above 7%, at 11.6%. Teton County followed with a 6.8% rate and Pondera with 6.1%.

The labor market in this area shows signs of improvement so far this year. The labor force and employment ranks are growing at very healthy rates, which has driven the rate of unemployment downward. The only major negative area is unemployment, particularly in Glacier County. This area has a large concentration of seasonal industries, and during the winter months there are fewer job opportunities.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A total of 20 new business firms entered this labor market area during February, bringing the yearly total to 43. This compares with 38 new firms in the first two months of 1977, indicating a further continuation of the positive business activity experienced throughout 1977. New car registrations, however, did not reflect this positive trend, as both new cars and truck registrations were off 1977 levels. It should be pointed out that registrations would have been ahead this year, except for the major downturn in Glacier County, which realized only about half of last year's cumulative total.

A new fertilizer plant in Cut Bank is nearing completion of the construction phase. When completed, about five to seven new jobs will be created in the area. Other hiring activity has been concentrated in the bar-restaurant trade, oil field exploration and business offices.

The construction industry remains at its lowest ebb, due to inclement weather conditions. However, work should soon be started again on the new Senior Citizen's Center and recreational facility near Cut Bank. This project opened last fall.

The primary agricultural activities include general ranch work and calving operations, although new hiring has been minimal. The outlook for 1978 appears better for the cattle market, which has been in a two year slump. The wheat market, however, does not look good, with an oversupply of crops and consequently, low prices. Montana farmers and ranchers are still hoping for a new direction from Washington, namely a higher crop support ceiling.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

February 1978

<u>Program</u>	<u>New Enrollees</u>	<u>Job Placements</u>	<u>End of Month Enrollment</u>
WIN	263	73	2279
CETA-CEP	63	33	279
CETA-CLASSROOM	33	14	399
CETA-OJT	46	35	158
JOB CORPS	51	15	458
PSE TITLE II	41	21	445
PSE TITLE VI	104	34	851
PSE TITLE VI "A"	145	27	676
CETA - AWE	97	10	156

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S.^{1/} (1967 = 100)

Percent Change From:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Jan. 1978</u>	<u>Dec. 1977</u>	<u>Jan. 1977</u>
All Items	187.2	.6%	6.8%

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED^{2/}

February 1978

<u>Social Characteristics</u>	<u>Percent of Total Covered Unemployment</u>
Non-White	6.2%
Female	23.3%
Youth	9.5%
Over 45	22.8%

^{1/} The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.

Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						Montana	U. S.	
1976								
January	316.8	284.0	263.1	20.9	32.8	10.4	8.8	*
February	317.8	287.0	263.9	23.1	30.8	9.7	8.7	*
March	325.7	295.1	267.0	28.1	30.6	9.4	8.1	*
April	333.4	307.8	272.8	35.0	25.6	7.7	7.4	*
May	336.4	314.0	277.7	36.3	22.4	6.6	6.7	*
June	353.9	325.2	283.5	41.7	28.7	8.1	8.0	.1
July	362.2	335.8	290.9	44.9	26.4	7.3	7.8	.1
August	364.9	339.7	291.3	48.4	25.2	6.9	7.9	.1
September	351.5	329.9	291.9	38.0	21.6	6.2	7.4	.1
October	340.6	319.7	287.2	32.5	20.9	6.1	7.2	.1
November	338.6	315.4	287.2	28.2	23.2	6.9	7.4	.1
December	335.8	311.1	286.7	24.4	24.7	7.3	7.4	.1
1976 Avg.	339.8	313.7	280.3	33.4	26.1	7.7	7.7	.1
1977								
January	324.5	296.9	274.3	22.6	27.6	8.5	8.3	.1
February	328.1	301.3	276.5	24.8	26.8	8.2	8.5	.1
March	336.3	310.8	280.9	29.9	25.5	7.6	7.9	.1
April	344.7	322.8	285.8	37.0	21.9	6.3	6.9	.1
May	349.0	329.7	291.5	38.2	19.3	5.5	6.4	.1
June	365.1	343.9	300.4	43.5	21.2	5.8	7.5	.2
July	373.6	353.0	306.5	46.5	20.6	5.5	7.0	3.3
August	380.9	361.0	311.2	49.8	19.9	5.2	6.8	.2
September	364.8	346.7	307.9	38.8	18.1	5.0	6.6	.1
October	354.9	337.1	304.1	33.0	17.8	5.0	6.3	.5
November	350.7	331.0	302.6	28.4	19.7	5.6	6.4	.1
December	346.4	326.0	301.6	24.4	20.4	5.9	6.0	.2
1977 Avg.	351.6	330.0	295.3	34.7	21.6	6.1	7.0	.4
1978								
January	340.5	314.9	292.4	22.5	25.6	7.5	7.0	.2
February	341.1	317.5	293.0	24.5	23.6	6.9	6.9	.2
March	347.9	325.5	296.1	29.4	22.4	6.4		.2
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								

^{1/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970.

^{2/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table II
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1976								
January	30.6	27.4	26.6	.8	3.1	10.3	10.4	*
February	30.6	27.7	26.8	.9	2.9	9.5	9.7	*
March	31.8	28.8	27.7	1.1	3.0	9.5	9.4	*
April	32.2	29.7	28.3	1.4	2.5	7.8	7.7	*
May	32.7	30.4	29.0	1.4	2.3	7.1	6.6	*
June	34.3	31.1	29.5	1.6	3.2	9.4	8.1	*
July	33.9	31.0	29.2	1.8	2.9	8.4	7.3	*
August	34.0	31.4	29.5	1.9	2.6	7.7	6.9	*
September	33.0	30.9	29.4	1.5	2.1	6.5	6.2	*
October	33.0	30.8	29.5	1.3	2.2	6.7	6.1	*
November	33.1	30.8	29.7	1.1	2.3	6.9	6.9	*
December	31.0	28.8	27.8	1.0	2.2	7.0	7.3	*
1976 Avg.	32.5	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.6	8.0	7.7	*
1977								
January	32.2	29.6	28.7	.9	3.0	8.0	8.5	*
February	32.3	30.1	29.1	1.0	2.2	6.8	8.2	*
March	33.1	30.9	29.7	1.2	2.2	6.7	7.6	*
April	33.8	32.0	30.5	1.5	1.8	5.4	6.3	*
May	34.4	32.6	31.1	1.5	1.8	5.2	5.5	*
June	35.7	33.7	32.0	1.7	2.2	5.6	5.8	*
July	35.8	33.8	32.0	1.8	2.0	5.6	5.5	.8
August	35.8	33.8	31.8	2.0	2.0	5.6	5.2	*
September	35.6	33.6	32.1	1.5	2.0	5.5	5.0	*
October	35.6	33.6	32.3	1.3	2.0	5.7	5.0	.4
November	34.8	32.8	31.7	1.1	1.8	5.3	5.6	*
December	34.5	32.4	31.4	1.0	2.1	6.0	5.9	*
1977 Avg.	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	5.9	6.1	.1
1978								
January	34.1	31.6	30.7	.9	2.5	7.5	7.5	*
February	33.9	31.5	30.5	1.0	2.4	7.0	6.9	*
March	34.4	32.2	31.0	1.2	2.2	6.2	6.4	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

Table III
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1976								
January	45.8	42.1	41.1	1.0	3.7	8.1	10.4	*
February	45.8	42.5	41.4	1.1	3.3	7.1	9.7	*
March	46.7	43.3	42.0	1.3	3.4	7.3	9.4	*
April	49.2	46.3	44.7	1.6	2.9	5.8	7.7	*
May	48.8	46.5	44.8	1.7	2.3	4.7	6.6	*
June	51.2	47.7	45.8	1.9	3.5	6.8	8.1	*
July	51.0	47.9	45.8	2.1	3.1	6.2	7.3	*
August	50.6	47.7	45.5	2.2	2.9	5.7	6.9	*
September	51.3	48.8	47.1	1.7	2.5	4.8	6.2	*
October	50.4	48.0	46.5	1.5	2.4	4.6	6.1	*
November	50.5	48.0	46.7	1.3	2.5	4.9	6.9	*
December	50.6	47.8	46.7	1.1	2.8	5.6	7.3	*
1976 Avg.	49.3	46.4	44.9	1.5	2.9	5.9	7.7	*
1977								
January	49.3	46.1	45.1	1.0	3.2	6.5	8.5	*
February	49.7	46.7	45.6	1.1	3.0	6.1	8.2	*
March	50.5	47.8	46.4	1.4	2.7	5.4	7.6	*
April	51.2	48.9	47.2	1.7	2.3	4.5	6.3	*
May	51.7	49.5	47.7	1.8	2.2	4.2	5.5	*
June	52.3	50.1	48.1	2.0	2.2	4.2	5.8	*
July	53.0	50.8	48.7	2.1	2.2	4.1	5.5	.1
August	53.5	51.3	49.0	2.3	2.2	4.0	5.2	.1
September	54.0	51.9	50.1	1.8	2.1	3.9	5.0	.1
October	53.0	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.1	4.0	5.0	.1
November	52.7	50.6	49.3	1.3	2.1	3.9	5.6	.1
December	52.2	50.0	48.9	1.1	2.2	4.2	5.9	.1
1977 Avg.	51.9	49.5	47.9	1.6	2.4	4.6	6.1	*
1978								
January	50.1	47.3	46.3	1.0	2.8	5.7	7.5	.1
February	50.1	47.4	46.3	1.1	2.7	5.3	6.9	.1
March	50.7	48.2	46.9	1.3	2.5	5.0	6.4	.1
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

Table IV
MONTANA
Statewide Employment by Industry
February 1978
in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Feb. 1978	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	Net Changes to Current Month	
				Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	341.1	340.5	328.1	.6	13.0
EMPLOYED PERSONS	317.5	314.9	301.3	2.6	16.2
Persons Employed in Agriculture	24.5	22.5	24.8	2.0	-.3
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	23.6	25.6	26.8	-2.0	-3.2
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	6.9	7.5	8.2	-.6	-1.3
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/}	5.4	5.8	6.5	-.4	-1.1
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	262.4	262.0	248.3	.4	14.1
MANUFACTURING	23.6	23.5	24.0	.1	-.4
Durable Goods	15.0	15.0	15.3	0	-.3
24 Lumber and Wood Products	8.7	8.9	9.2	-.2	-.5
33 Primary Metal Industries	3.4	3.2	3.3	.2	.1
Other Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	.1
Nondurable Goods	8.6	8.5	8.7	.1	-.1
20 Food and Kindred Products	3.9	4.1	4.1	-.2	-.2
27 Printing and Publishing	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.0	.9	1.1	.1	-.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.6	1.4	1.4	.2	.2
MINING	6.4	6.4	5.9	0	.5
10 Metal Mining	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	-.1
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	1.6	1.6	1.4	0	.2
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	2.7	2.7	2.3	0	.4

<u>CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION</u>					
15 General Building Contractors	13.2	13.2	11.5	0	1.7
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	4.7	4.5	4.0	.2	.7
17 Special Trade Contractors	2.8	3.0	2.9	-.2	-.1
	5.7	5.7	4.6	0	1.1
<u>TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES</u>					
40 Railroad Transportation	20.8	20.8	19.6	0	1.2
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.4	6.4	6.2	0	.2
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services ..	6.1	6.1	5.9	0	.2
	8.3	8.3	7.5	0	.8
<u>WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE</u>					
Wholesale Trade	65.5	65.5	61.6	0	3.9
Retail Trade	16.5	16.4	14.9	.1	1.6
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories .	49.0	49.1	46.7	-.1	2.3
54 Food Stores	8.5	8.6	7.5	-.1	1.0
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	7.0	7.1	6.6	-.1	.4
58 Eating and Drinking Places	7.4	7.4	7.9	0	-.5
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc. ..	17.1	16.8	15.5	.3	1.6
	9.0	9.2	9.2	-.2	-.2
<u>FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE</u>					
	11.8	11.7	10.9	.1	.9
<u>SERVICES</u>					
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	48.2	48.0	46.6	.2	1.6
72 Personal Services	6.6	6.5	5.2	.1	1.4
80 Medical and other Health Services	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	.2
Other Services	16.0	16.0	14.9	0	1.1
	23.0	22.9	24.1	.1	-1.1
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>					
91 Federal Government	72.9	72.9	68.2	0	4.7
92 State Colleges and Universities	14.1	14.2	13.1	-.1	1.0
92 Other State Government	8.9	8.9	9.2	0	-.3
93 Local Education	11.4	11.4	10.9	0	.5
93 Other Local Government	24.8	24.7	22.5	.1	2.2
	13.7	13.7	12.5	0	1.2

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

Table V
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Employment by Industry

February 1978
in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Net Changes to Current Month from:				
	Feb. 1978	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	33.9	34.1	32.3	-.2	1.6
EMPLOYED PERSONS	31.5	31.6	30.1	-.1	1.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.0	.9	1.0	.1	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.4	2.5	2.2	-.1	.2
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	7.0	7.5	6.8	-.5	.2
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/} ..	6.2	6.1	6.0	.1	.2
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS <i>(Establishment Data)</i>	29.2	29.3	27.9	-.1	1.3
<i>Manufacturing</i>	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	-.1
<i>Contract Construction</i>	1.4	1.5	1.7	-.1	-.3
<i>Transportation and Public Utilities</i> ...	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	-.1
<i>Trade</i>	9.9	9.9	8.7	0	1.2
<i>Wholesale Trade</i>	2.9	3.0	2.5	-.1	.4
<i>Retail Trade</i>	7.0	6.9	6.2	.1	.8
<i>Finance, Insurance and Real Estate</i>	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	.1
<i>Services and Mining</i>	6.5	6.5	6.2	0	.3
<i>Government</i>	6.2	6.2	6.0	0	.2
<i>Federal Government</i>	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	.1
<i>State and Local Government</i>	4.1	4.1	4.0	0	.1

^{1/} Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships;
includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

^{2/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Table VI
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Employment by Industry

FEBRUARY 1978

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Net Changes to Current Month from:				
	Feb. 1978	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	50.1	50.1	49.7	0	.4
EMPLOYED PERSONS	47.4	47.3	46.7	.1	.7
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.1	1.0	1.1	.1	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.7	2.8	3.0	-.1	-.3
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	5.3	5.7	6.1	-.4	-.8
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/} ..	4.3	4.4	5.1	-.1	-.8
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	41.9	42.1	40.9	-.2	1.0
Manufacturing	3.4	3.5	3.5	-.1	-.1
Contract Construction	2.4	2.4	2.1	0	.3
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	3.8	3.8	3.5	0	.3
Trade	13.8	13.9	13.2	-.1	.6
Wholesale Trade	4.9	4.9	4.6	0	.3
Retail Trade	8.9	9.0	8.6	-.1	.3
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	.1
Services and Mining	8.2	8.2	8.1	0	.1
Government	8.2	8.2	8.5	0	-.3
Federal Government	1.5	1.5	1.9	0	-.4
State and Local Government	6.7	6.7	6.6	0	.1

^{1/} Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships;
includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

^{2/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS^{1/}

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1978
STATEWIDE	346.4	340.5	341.1	326.0	314.9	317.5	20.4	25.6	23.6	5.9	7.5	6.9
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.5	34.1	33.9	32.4	31.6	31.5	2.1	2.5	2.4	6.0	7.5	7.0
BILLINGS SMSA	52.2	50.1	50.1	50.0	47.3	47.4	2.2	2.8	2.7	4.2	5.7	5.3
^{2/} BALANCE OF STATE ^{2/}												
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.7	33.6	33.8	31.3	30.9	31.1	2.4	2.7	2.7	7.1	8.1	8.1
BOZEMAN	24.7	24.3	24.5	23.5	22.8	23.1	1.2	1.5	1.4	4.7	6.3	5.8
GLASGOW	16.6	16.2	16.4	15.7	15.1	15.4	.9	1.1	1.0	5.1	6.8	6.4
GLENDIVE	13.9	13.7	13.6	13.5	13.0	12.9	.4	.7	.7	3.1	5.1	5.1
HARDIN-RED LODGE	11.4	11.4	11.4	10.7	10.5	10.6	.7	.9	.8	5.7	7.8	7.3
HAVRE	13.0	12.7	12.8	12.4	11.9	12.0	.6	.8	.8	4.7	6.4	6.1
HELENA	26.0	25.7	25.6	24.6	24.1	24.1	1.4	1.6	1.5	5.4	6.4	6.0
KALISPELL	32.4	33.0	32.4	29.5	29.3	29.1	2.9	3.7	3.3	9.0	11.1	10.3
LEWISTOWN	10.2	9.8	9.9	9.6	9.0	9.2	.6	.8	.7	6.1	8.2	7.1
MILES CITY	14.5	14.4	14.6	13.8	13.5	13.8	.7	.9	.8	5.0	6.4	5.6
MISSOULA	46.9	46.2	45.7	43.5	42.3	42.2	3.4	3.9	3.5	7.3	8.5	7.7
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.6	16.3	16.4	15.7	15.0	15.2	.9	1.3	1.2	5.6	8.1	7.3

^{1/} A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page.
^{2/} Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Map inside back cover.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS^{1/}

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Feb. 1978	Feb. 1977	Percent Change 1977-1978	Feb. 1978	Feb. 1977	Percent Change 1977-1978	Feb. 1978	Feb. 1977	Percent Change 1977-1978	Feb. 1978	Feb. 1977	Net Change 1977-1978
STATEWIDE	341.1	328.1	4.0	317.5	301.3	5.4	23.6	26.8	-3.2	6.9	8.2	-1.3
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.9	32.3	5.0	31.5	30.1	4.7	2.4	2.2	.2	7.0	6.8	.2
BILLINGS SMSA	50.1	49.7	.8	47.4	46.7	1.5	2.7	3.0	-.3	5.3	6.1	-.8
BALANCE OF STATE ^{2/}	256.5	246.1	4.2	236.0	224.5	5.1	20.5	21.6	-1.1	8.0	8.8	-.8
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.8	33.1	2.1	31.1	29.9	4.0	2.7	3.2	-.5	8.1	9.8	-1.7
BOZEMAN	24.5	23.5	4.3	23.1	21.7	6.5	1.4	1.8	-.4	5.8	7.8	-2.0
GLASGOW	16.4	15.8	3.8	15.4	14.5	6.2	1.0	1.3	-.3	6.4	8.0	-1.6
GLENDIVE	13.6	12.9	5.4	12.9	12.1	6.6	.7	.8	-.1	5.1	6.1	-1.0
HARDIN-RED LODGE	11.4	11.0	3.6	10.6	10.2	3.9	.8	.8	0	7.3	7.6	-.3
HAVRE	12.8	12.1	5.8	12.0	11.3	6.2	.8	.8	0	6.1	6.8	-.7
HELENA	25.6	24.3	6.2	24.1	22.8	5.7	1.5	1.5	0	6.0	6.2	-.2
KALISPELL	32.4	31.1	4.2	29.1	27.1	7.4	3.3	4.0	-.7	10.3	12.8	-2.5
LEWISTOWN	9.9	9.5	4.2	9.2	8.7	5.7	.7	.8	-.1	7.1	8.8	-1.7
MILES CITY	14.6	14.2	2.8	13.8	13.3	3.8	.8	.9	-.1	5.6	6.5	-.9
MISSOULA	45.7	43.1	6.0	42.2	38.8	8.8	3.5	4.3	-.8	7.7	10.0	-2.3
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.4	15.3	7.2	15.2	14.1	7.8	1.2	1.2	0	7.3	7.6	-.3

^{1/} A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page.^{2/} Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Map inside back cover.

TABLE IX
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE, BY COUNTY
FEBRUARY 1978

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	341098	317455	23643	6.9
CASCADE	33858	31463	2375	7.0
YELLOWSTONE	50061	47415	2646	5.3
BEAVERHEAD	4133	3929	204	4.9
BIG HORN	4376	3993	383	8.8
BLAINE	2873	2630	243	8.5
BROADWATER	1427	1347	80	5.6
CAREON	3259	3004	255	7.8
CARTER	869	822	47	5.4
CHOTEAU	2835	2728	107	3.8
CUSTER	5727	5388	339	5.9
DANIELS	1363	1321	42	3.1
DAWSON	5114	4844	270	5.3
DEER LODGE	6510	5928	582	8.9
FALLON	2063	1962	101	4.9
FERGUS	5230	4803	427	8.2
FLATHEAD	19770	17856	1914	9.7
GALLATIN	18580	17694	886	4.8
GARFIELD	792	767	25	3.2
GLACIER	4852	4287	565	11.6
GOLDEN VALLEY	417	395	22	5.3
GRANITE	957	865	92	9.6
HILL	8825	8357	468	5.3
JEFFERSON	2583	2404	179	6.9
JUDITH BASIN	1140	1039	101	8.9
LAKE	6029	5479	550	9.1
LEWIS AND CLARK	21604	20319	1285	5.9
LIBERTY	1060	994	66	6.2
LINCOLN	6582	5722	860	13.1
MC CONE	1284	1180	104	8.1
MADISON	2279	2193	86	3.8
MEAGHER	770	701	69	9.0
MINERAL	1596	1438	158	9.9
MISSOULA	33216	30986	2230	6.7
MUSSELSHELL	1602	1502	100	6.2
PARK	5185	4719	466	9.0
PETROLEUM	299	291	8	2.7
PHILLIPS	2438	2290	148	6.1
PONDERA	3405	3196	209	6.1
POWDER RIVER	989	944	45	4.6
POWELL	3117	2938	179	5.7
PRAIRIE	937	883	54	5.8
RAVALLI	6443	5705	738	11.5
RICHLAND	4694	4692	202	4.1
ROOSEVELT	5707	5394	313	5.5
ROSEBUD	4537	4270	267	5.9
SANDERS	4478	4069	409	9.1
SHERIDAN	2259	2193	66	2.9
SILVER BOW	16792	15215	1577	9.4
STILLWATER	2325	2203	122	5.2
SWEET GRASS	1419	1344	75	5.3
TETON	2647	2468	179	6.8
TOOLE	2632	2494	138	5.2
TREASURE	464	444	20	4.3
VALLEY	4650	4169	481	10.3
WHLATLAND	1264	1212	52	4.1
WIBAUX	581	547	34	5.9

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE X

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

February 1978

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT				TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
	Feb. 1978 ^{1/}	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	Net Change to Current Month From:	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
				Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	February 1978	January 1978	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	115.0	115.2	103.8	- .2	11.2	262.4	262.0	43.8 44.0
Manufacturing	2.7	2.7	3.1	0	- .4	23.6	23.5	11.4 11.5
Mining	.3	.3	.3	0	0	6.4	6.4	5.3 5.3
Contract Construction	1.1	1.1	.8	0	.3	13.2	13.2	8.0 8.0
Transportation & Public Utilities .	3.7	3.8	3.5	- .1	.2	20.8	20.8	18.1 18.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	30.7	30.7	26.7	0	4.0	65.5	65.5	46.9 46.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	7.6	7.6	6.9	0	.7	11.8	11.7	64.2 64.4
Services	33.2	33.2	30.7	0	2.5	48.2	48.0	69.0 69.2
Government ^{2/}	35.7	35.8	31.8	- .1	3.9	72.9	72.9	49.0 49.2

^{1/} Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1976 Benchmark.

^{2/} Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.Establishment Series began January 1974.
Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor,
Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1977

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	103.2	103.8	105.8	107.0	105.9	109.8	109.2	111.7	114.2	113.9	114.6	114.8	109.5
Manufacturing	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.8	3.0
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.8	.7	.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	26.8	26.7	28.0	28.8	29.0	30.6	30.2	30.2	30.6	31.1	31.4	31.0	29.5
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.2
Services	30.5	30.7	31.1	31.4	31.3	32.4	32.6	32.6	33.1	32.4	33.1	33.2	32.1
Government ^{1/}	31.3	31.8	32.3	32.3	30.8	31.6	30.9	32.9	34.6	34.4	34.4	35.0	32.7

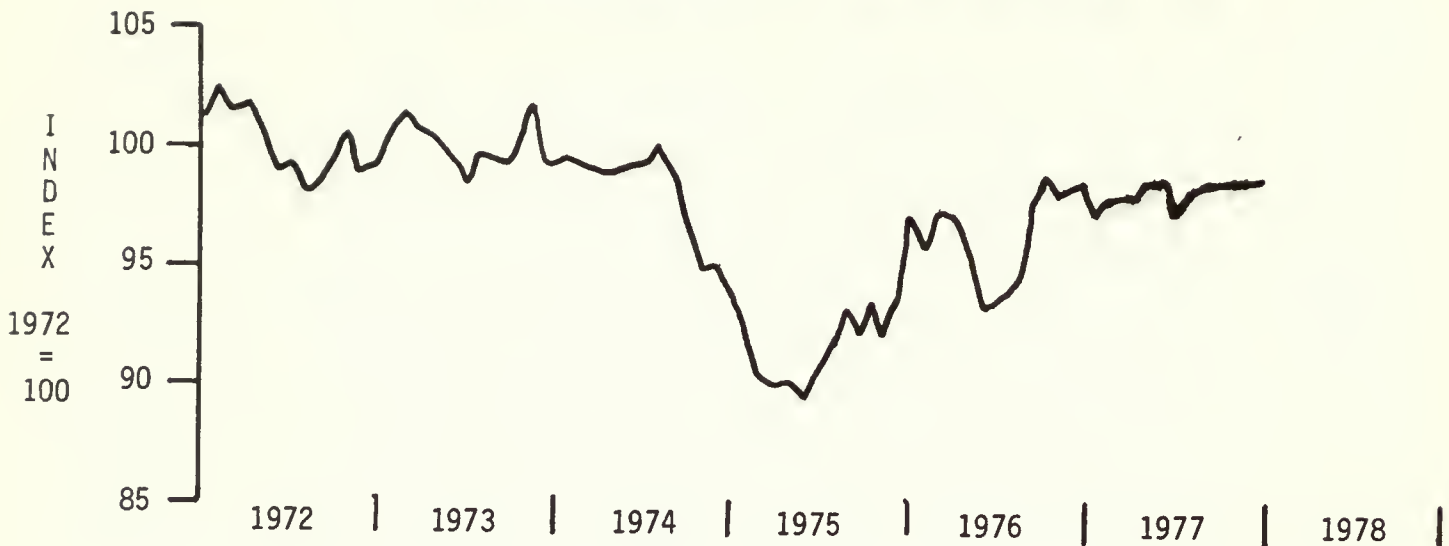
1978

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	115.2	115.0
Manufacturing	2.7	2.7
Mining	.3	.3
Contract Construction	1.1	1.1
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.8	3.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	30.7	30.7
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	7.6	7.6
Services	33.2	33.2
Government ^{1/}	35.8	35.7

^{1/} Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.
 Established Series began January, 1974.
 Revised to 1977 Benchmark.
 Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS* 12



Composite Index of
SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS
1972 = 100

1976

January	97.2
February	95.7
March	97.6
April	96.9
May	95.0
June	93.3
July	93.9
August	94.8
September	98.1
October	99.3
November	98.3
December	98.8

1977

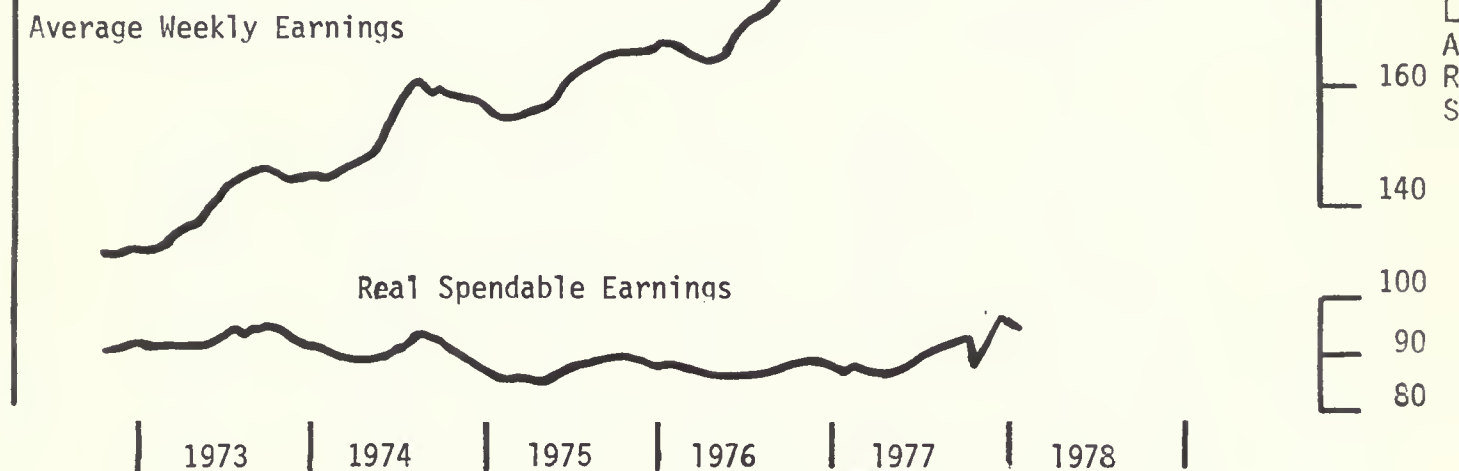
January	98.2
February	99.2
March	99.0
April	99.1
May	97.1
June	97.5
July	95.8
August	97.1
September	98.1
October	98.1
November	98.0
December	98.5

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

The newest revisions in the 1977 index values reflect the benchmark changes in the employment related components. Generally, figures for the first half of the year were revised upward, while the last half underwent some downward adjustment. For the most part the data do remain unchanged and are merely an extension of the improving trend noted in 1976 final index values.

* Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.
** Indicates last month of plotted data.

REAL SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS
OF PRIVATE NONAGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WORKERS
(1967) DOLLARS)



	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	\$205.19	\$210.37	\$175.94
Taxes Withheld	31.69	32.25	26.63
Spendable Earnings	173.50	177.62	149.31
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	80.83	82.18	64.14
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	92.67	95.44	85.17

	Average Weekly Earnings	Real Spendable Earnings
1977		
July	190.97	89.63
Aug.	200.28	92.96
Sep.	197.89	91.67
Oct.	202.65	93.29
Nov.	190.85	88.23
Dec.	210.37	95.44
1978		
Jan.	205.19	92.67
Feb.		
Mar.		
Apr.		
May		
June		
July		
Aug.		
Sep.		
Oct.		
Nov.		
Dec.		

REAL SPENDABLE EARNINGS

Wage levels dipped slightly in January. Coupled with the virtually inevitable increase in the consumer price index, this decrease resulted in a drop in Real Spendable average weekly earnings for the period. Despite this monthly fluctuation, the long range trend continues to be one of improvement for income levels.

* Indicates last month of plotted data.

p: Preliminary

1/ Average weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						Montana	U. S.	
<u>1976</u>								
January	336.1	308.3	276.2	32.1	27.8	8.3	7.8	*
February	336.5	309.8	276.6	33.2	26.7	7.9	7.6	*
March	336.5	309.2	276.1	33.1	27.3	8.1	7.5	*
April	337.3	311.7	277.4	34.3	25.6	7.6	7.5	*
May	336.7	311.1	277.9	33.2	25.6	7.6	7.3	*
June	334.1	307.7	274.3	33.4	26.4	7.9	7.5	.1
July	342.0	314.8	280.3	34.5	27.2	7.9	7.8	.1
August	342.8	314.6	280.7	33.9	28.2	8.2	7.9	.1
September	343.2	317.4	284.1	33.3	25.8	7.5	7.8	.1
October	342.5	317.9	284.7	33.2	24.6	7.2	7.9	.1
November	344.8	320.7	287.5	33.2	24.1	7.0	8.1	.1
December	344.2	320.4	286.8	33.6	23.8	6.9	7.8	.1
1976 Avg.	339.8	313.7	280.3	33.4	26.1	7.7	7.7	.1
<u>1977</u>								
January	344.0	321.3	287.6	33.7	22.7	6.6	7.4	.1
February	347.0	324.3	289.4	34.9	22.7	6.5	7.6	.1
March	347.3	325.1	290.0	35.1	22.2	6.4	7.4	.1
April	348.7	326.9	290.5	36.4	21.8	6.2	7.1	.1
May	349.7	327.1	292.0	35.1	22.6	6.5	7.1	.1
June	345.3	326.5	291.1	35.4	18.8	5.4	7.1	.2
July	353.5	332.1	295.9	36.2	21.4	6.1	6.9	3.3
August	358.8	336.0	300.6	35.4	22.8	6.4	7.0	.2
September	356.4	334.2	299.9	34.3	22.2	6.2	6.8	.1
October	356.5	335.1	301.4	33.7	21.4	6.0	6.8	.5
November	356.4	335.9	302.7	33.2	20.5	5.8	6.7	.1
December	354.5	335.0	301.5	33.5	19.5	5.5	6.4	.2
1977 Avg.	351.6	330.0	295.3	34.7	21.6	6.1	7.0	.4
<u>1978</u>								
January	360.2	339.4	305.8	33.6	20.8	5.8	6.3	.2
February	360.1	340.5	305.8	34.7	19.6	5.4	6.1	.2
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

^{1/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970

^{2/} Non-additive - included in total employment

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XIII
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1976								
January	31.9	29.2	27.9	1.3	2.7	8.5	8.3	*
February	32.2	29.5	28.2	1.3	2.7	8.4	7.9	*
March	32.5	29.7	28.4	1.3	2.8	8.6	8.1	*
April	32.4	29.7	28.3	1.4	2.7	8.3	7.6	*
May	32.4	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.5	7.6	7.6	*
June	32.8	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.9	8.9	7.9	*
July	32.7	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.8	8.5	7.9	*
August	32.8	30.1	28.7	1.4	2.7	8.3	8.2	*
September	32.5	30.1	28.8	1.3	2.4	7.5	7.5	*
October	32.8	30.4	29.1	1.3	2.4	7.3	7.2	*
November	33.4	30.9	29.6	1.3	2.5	7.4	7.0	*
December	31.6	29.4	28.1	1.3	2.2	7.1	6.9	*
1976 Avg.	32.5	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.6	8.0	7.7	*
1977								
January	33.6	31.4	30.0	1.4	2.2	6.5	6.6	*
February	33.9	31.9	30.5	1.4	2.0	6.0	6.5	*
March	33.8	31.8	30.4	1.4	2.0	5.9	6.4	*
April	34.0	32.0	30.5	1.5	2.0	5.9	6.2	*
May	34.0	32.1	30.7	1.4	1.9	5.7	6.5	*
June	34.2	32.5	31.1	1.4	1.7	5.0	5.4	*
July	34.6	32.7	31.3	1.4	1.9	5.6	6.1	.8
August	34.7	32.6	31.2	1.4	2.1	6.0	6.4	*
September	35.1	32.9	31.5	1.4	2.2	6.4	6.2	*
October	35.4	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.2	6.2	6.0	.4
November	34.9	32.9	31.6	1.3	2.0	5.8	5.8	*
December	35.1	33.0	31.7	1.3	2.1	6.1	5.5	*
1977 Avg.	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	5.9	6.1	.1
1978								
January	35.5	33.3	31.9	1.4	2.2	6.1	5.8	*
February	35.5	33.3	31.9	1.4	2.2	6.2	5.4	*
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

^{1/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

^{2/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

* Under 50.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIV
 BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
 Civilian Labor Force
 SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
 (in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent		
						County	State	
1976								
January	47.3	44.2	42.8	1.4	3.1	6.6	8.3	*
February	47.8	44.9	43.4	1.5	2.9	6.1	7.9	*
March	48.1	45.1	43.6	1.5	3.0	6.3	8.1	*
April	49.7	46.7	45.1	1.6	3.0	6.0	7.6	*
May	48.8	46.0	44.5	1.5	2.8	5.8	7.6	*
June	49.3	46.2	44.6	1.6	3.1	6.3	7.9	*
July	49.4	46.3	44.7	1.6	3.1	6.2	7.9	*
August	49.4	46.4	44.8	1.6	3.0	6.1	8.2	*
September	50.9	48.1	46.6	1.5	2.8	5.5	7.5	*
October	50.0	47.3	45.8	1.5	2.7	5.5	7.2	*
November	50.4	47.6	46.1	1.5	2.8	5.5	7.0	*
December	50.6	47.8	46.3	1.5	2.8	5.6	6.9	*
1976 Avg.	49.3	46.4	44.9	1.5	2.9	5.9	7.7	*
1977								
January	50.8	48.2	46.7	1.5	2.6	5.2	6.6	*
February	51.6	49.0	47.4	1.6	2.6	5.1	6.5	*
March	52.1	49.7	48.1	1.6	2.4	4.5	6.4	*
April	51.7	49.3	47.6	1.7	2.4	4.6	6.2	*
May	51.7	49.0	47.4	1.6	2.7	5.2	6.5	*
June	50.4	48.6	47.0	1.6	1.8	3.6	5.4	*
July	51.4	49.3	47.7	1.6	2.1	4.1	6.1	.1
August	52.3	50.0	48.3	1.7	2.3	4.4	6.4	.1
September	53.6	51.2	49.6	1.6	2.4	4.5	6.2	.1
October	52.7	50.2	48.7	1.5	2.5	4.7	6.0	.1
November	52.7	50.3	48.8	1.5	2.4	4.5	5.8	.1
December	52.1	49.9	48.4	1.5	2.2	4.2	5.5	.1
1977 Avg.	51.9	49.5	47.9	1.6	2.4	4.6	6.1	*
1978								
January	51.7	49.4	47.9	1.5	2.3	4.4	5.8	.1
February	52.0	49.8	48.2	1.6	2.2	4.3	5.4	.1
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

* Under 50.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE XV

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

FEBRUARY 1978

	Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Feb. 1978	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1978	Jan. 1978
TOTAL PRIVATE	\$203.58	\$205.19	\$176.00	35.1	35.2	\$5.80
MANUFACTURING						
Durable Goods	323.95	322.77	247.25	43.6	40.6	7.43
Primary Metal Industries	326.20	325.13	248.63	44.2	41.3	7.38
Nondurable Goods	317.14	321.19	287.38	40.4	40.2	7.85
Food and Kindred Products	317.43	318.38	243.75	42.1	39.0	7.54
	258.81	265.41	220.25	44.7	39.9	5.79
MINING						
Metal Mining	359.39	371.13	317.46	41.5	42.9	8.66
	402.19	422.92	291.85	40.3	40.2	9.98
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	436.37	438.51	325.66	32.3	38.0	13.51
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	298.69	298.69	287.32	41.6	41.4	7.18
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	284.93	284.93	271.17	42.4	40.9	6.72
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	153.76	156.60	145.52	31.9	33.3	4.82
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	145.27	150.22	131.32	36.5	37.2	3.98
SERVICES	133.27	133.27	109.82	33.4	29.6	3.99
						4.76
						4.37
						3.25
						3.34

Data for current month are preliminary.

Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.

Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE XVI

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

JANUARY 1978

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES					
	Total			New Hires			Quits			Layoffs		
	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977
MANUFACTURING	2.4	2.1	2.8	1.3	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.2	.6	.7
Durable Goods	2.6	1.7	3.1	1.1	1.3	1.8	1.2	.6	1.3	1.9	.5	1.0
Primary Metal Industries	.7	2.5	2.2	.0	1.5	.8	.3	.5	.4	1.1	.4	*
Nondurable Goods	2.0	2.8	2.1	1.6	2.4	1.5	2.0	1.6	.7	*	.4	.3
MINING	1.2	.4	1.2	.8	.1	.8	.8	3.2	1.7	1.4	.4	2.9
Metal Mining	.9	1.2	1.2	.1	.2	.1	.1	.1	.1	4.3	.3	7.0

* Less than .05.

Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1959.

TABLE XVII
NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA
BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

<u>Industry</u>	<u>FEB. 1978</u>	<u>FEB. 1977</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
			<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	30	18	69	47
MINING	6	10	12	30
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	65	58	125	107
MANUFACTURING	19	13	36	21
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	24	20	38	27
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	113	108	209	181
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	48	37	95	64
SERVICES	120	118	249	227
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	3	15	4	16
STATE TOTAL	428	397	837	720

TABLE XVIII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS					NEW BUSINESS FIRMS				
Areas	Feb. 1978	Feb. 1977	Year to Date		Areas	Feb. 1978	Feb. 1977	Year to Date	
			1978	1977				1978	1977
STATE OF MONTANA	428	397	837	720	HAVRE LMA	14	9	26	17
					Blaine	3	3	4	3
					Hill	9	6	16	7
GREAT FALLS SMSA	39	49	78	76	Liberty	2	0	6	7
					HELENA LMA	37	33	62	48
BILLINGS SMSA	75	78	141	121	Broadwater	1	1	1	1
					Jefferson	5	2	7	2
					Lewis and Clark	31	30	54	45
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	32	26	61	65	KALISPELL LMA	42	36	94	74
Beaverhead	7	7	9	9	Flathead	30	19	63	37
Deer Lodge	4	1	8	1	Lake	7	9	21	21
Granite	1	0	3	0	Lincoln	5	8	10	16
Madison	3	4	9	6	LEWISTOWN LMA	7	13	14	20
Powell	3	3	7	3	Fergus	5	9	7	16
Silver Bow	14	11	25	46	Golden Valley	0	1	0	1
BOZEMAN LMA	40	48	77	82	Judith Basin	0	0	0	0
Gallatin	35	38	61	59	Musselshell	1	2	3	2
Meagher	1	1	2	2	Petroleum	0	0	1	0
Park	4	9	14	21	Wheatland	1	1	3	1
GLASGOW LMA	7	11	18	24	MILES CITY LMA	9	12	20	23
Daniels	0	2	2	2	Carter	1	1	2	3
Phillips	2	0	4	1	Custer	1	4	7	10
Roosevelt	2	3	5	4	Fallon	0	2	1	3
Sheridan	0	1	2	5	Powder River	2	0	2	0
Valley	3	5	5	12	Rosebud	5	4	8	6
GLENDIVE LMA	14	5	25	11	Treasure	0	1	0	1
Dawson	2	1	9	2	MISSOULA LMA	74	56	147	107
Garfield	0	0	0	2	Mineral	2	0	3	0
McCone	1	0	1	0	Missoula	53	42	111	84
Prairie	1	2	4	3	Ravalli	15	11	24	18
Richland	10	1	11	3	Sanders	4	3	9	5
Wibaux	0	1	0	1	SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	20	12	43	38
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	18	9	31	14	Chouteau	1	2	7	2
Big Horn	7	3	11	6	Glacier	8	2	12	4
Carbon	3	1	11	2	Pondera	3	2	8	15
Stillwater	3	4	3	5	Teton	4	3	8	5
Sweet Grass	5	1	6	1	Toole	4	3	8	12

Source of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons; to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified.* Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

* *If sufficient wage credits have been secured by a claimant from sources other than insured employment, he may be eligible for benefits which are financed wholly or partially from federal funds.*

TABLE XIX

DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

FEBRUARY 1978 COUNTY	NO. OF PAYS	INTRASTATE AMT. OF PAYS
BEAVERHEAD	385	29,314.72
BIG HORN	542	45,850.10
BLAINE	410	32,395.80
BROADWATER	129	10,808.40
CARBON	462	38,174.00
CARTER	72	5,936.00
CASCADE	5,059	401,518.66
CHOUTEAU	148	10,125.00
CUSTER	712	57,633.45
DANIELS	77	5,223.00
DAWSON	475	38,822.92
DEER LODGE	1,511	128,723.90
FALLON	170	11,956.00
FERGUS	869	67,306.70
FLATHEAD	3,537	265,304.06
GALLATIN	1,688	134,716.84
GARFIELD	39	3,135.18
GLACIER	994	79,359.93
GOLDEN VALLEY	20	1,405.00
GRANITE	148	11,611.00
HILL	880	67,837.37
JEFFERSON	358	31,725.00
JUDITH BASIN	190	16,534.59
LAKE	1,068	77,865.33
LEWIS & CLARK	2,705	219,735.08
LIBERTY	87	7,237.00
LINCOLN	1,171	84,606.87
MADISON	112	9,513.00
MCCONE	162	12,434.24
MEAGHER	116	9,497.96
MINERAL	248	20,451.85
MISSOULA	4,015	298,528.22
MUSSELSHELL	203	17,954.80
PARK	783	56,092.84
PETROLEUM	8	832.00
PHILLIPS	253	18,238.25
PONDERA	306	26,656.00
POWDER RIVER	39	3,905.00
POWELL	373	29,151.43
PRAIRIE	99	9,035.00
RAVALLI	1,213	86,176.68
RICHLAND	288	21,899.13
ROOSEVELT	383	25,596.46
ROSEBUD	507	40,680.82
SANDERS	771	62,753.96
SHERIDAN	98	7,243.00
SILVER BOW	3,715	305,297.57
STILLWATER	203	17,495.00
SWEETGRASS	61	4,515.00
TETON	268	20,571.88
TOOLE	313	25,801.14
TREASURE	41	4,118.00
VALLEY	743	56,608.13
WHEATLAND	75	6,017.00
WIBAUX	24	2,221.00
YELLOWSTONE	5,392	446,019.84
TOTAL FOR STATE	44,718	3,530,167.10
INTERSTATE	1,926	179,473.49
TOTAL	46,644	3,709,640.59

TABLE XX

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY through FEBRUARY, 1978
COUNTY NO. OF PAYS INTRASTATE
AMT. OF PAYS

BEAVERHEAD	797	62,684.74
BIG HORN	1,151	95,884.64
BLAINE	778	61,577.84
BROADWATER	295	23,767.28
CARBON	894	74,537.00
CARTER	181	14,199.00
CASCADE	9,565	761,811.17
CHOUTEAU	295	20,353.00
CUSTER	1,442	118,461.13
DANIELS	168	11,774.00
DAWSON	935	76,527.67
DEER LODGE	2,542	213,899.34
FALLON	339	24,242.00
FERGUS	1,691	133,516.82
FLATHEAD	6,751	510,594.83
GALLATIN	3,410	268,188.97
GARFIELD	95	7,241.63
GLACIER	1,760	141,814.49
GOLDEN VALLEY	37	2,859.00
GRANITE	277	21,107.00
HILL	1,693	130,192.49
JEFFERSON	758	65,926.00
JUDITH BASIN	406	36,538.01
LAKE	2,103	157,455.30
LEWIS & CLARK	5,367	439,481.67
LIBERTY	168	13,960.00
LINCOLN	2,262	163,071.95
MADISON	229	19,041.00
MCCONE	268	20,942.24
MEAGHER	232	18,836.09
MINERAL	552	45,748.70
MISSOULA	7,808	587,340.90
MUSSELSHELL	431	37,951.80
PARK	1,472	106,933.72
PETROLEUM	15	1,539.00
PHILLIPS	455	33,484.25
PONDERA	593	51,080.00
POWDER RIVER	67	6,709.00
POWELL	789	59,897.79
PRAIRIE	206	19,249.00
RAVALLI	2,320	167,715.98
RICHLAND	491	37,962.13
ROOSEVELT	682	46,472.14
ROSEBUD	1,022	81,498.58
SANDERS	1,564	127,098.90
SHERIDAN	203	14,407.00
SILVER BOW	6,644	535,312.19
STILLWATER	403	34,251.76
SWEETGRASS	124	9,300.00
TETON	505	39,970.36
TOOLE	573	45,021.21
TREASURE	90	9,067.00
VALLEY	1,514	117,586.01
WHEATLAND	181	14,575.00
WIBAUX	40	3,551.00
YELLOWSTONE	10,357	852,610.08
TOTAL FOR STATE	85,990	6,796,819.80
INTERSTATE	4,868	538,711.46
TOTAL	90,858	7,335,531.26

TABLE XXI
SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>Net Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Initial Claims ^{1/}	11,538	11,012	526	4.8
Continued Claims ^{1/}	112,784	101,681	11,103	10.9
Number of Benefit Payments ^{1/}	90,784	88,047	2,737	3.1
Amount of Benefits Paid ^{1/}	\$7,340,395	\$6,719,388	\$621,007	9.2
Average Weekly Benefit Amount ^{1/2/}	\$86.08	\$78.50	\$ 7.58	9.7

MONTHLY

	<u>Feb. 1978</u>	<u>Jan.^{a/} 1978</u>	<u>Feb. 1977</u>	<u>Change From Year Ago</u>	
				<u>Net</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Initial Claims ^{1/}	4,552	6,986	3,717	835	22.4
Continued Claims ^{1/}	57,873	54,911	49,413	8,460	17.1
Number of Benefit Payments ^{1/}	46,570	44,214	43,974	2,596	5.9
Amount of Benefits Paid ^{1/}	\$3,714,504	\$3,625,891	\$3,340,044	374,460	11.2
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt ^{1/2/}	\$83.87	\$88.43	\$76.79	\$7.08	9.2
Trust Fund Balance	-\$6,104,195*	-\$5,214,409*	-\$4,053,789**	-\$2,050,406	-50.6

^{1/} Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.

^{2/} Derived According to Definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".

* Excludes Loans From Federal Government, which amount to \$9,284,089.

** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to \$5,704,089.

^{a/} Revised January, 1978 figures. The previously published figures for January 1978 were incorrect.

The initial claims total is beginning its seasonal downturn, which is shown in the statistics' decline from January to February. The continued claims total increased from last month, but the increase was smaller than the rise in the December to January figures. Both statistics show an increase over the year-to-date totals of one year ago.

The number of benefit payments and the amount of benefits paid increased from January to February, and also from February of a year ago. The year-to-date totals for both statistics rose over last year's figures.

The average weekly benefit amount decreased from January, which may be due to a variety of factors. The statistic increased from February of last year, and is also running ahead of last year's year-to-date totals.

The trust fund balance deficit increased from January, and is ahead of February of a year ago. The expansion of the deficit is due to a large outlay of benefit payments, and small contribution amounts.

ANNUAL TABLES

1977 MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY LABOR MARKET AREA^{1/}
Not Seasonally Adjusted
(In Thousands)

	Civilian		<u>Unemployment</u>	
<u>Month</u>	<u>Labor</u>	<u>Employment</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u> ^{2/}
	<u>Force</u>			
<u>ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA</u>				
January	32.4	29.4	3.0	9.4
February	33.1	29.9	3.2	9.8
March	33.5	30.4	3.1	9.2
April	34.2	31.4	2.8	8.1
May	34.0	31.6	2.4	7.1
June	36.0	33.0	3.0	8.4
July	39.2	36.2	3.0	7.6
August	37.4	34.8	2.6	6.8
September	35.7	33.5	2.2	6.2
October	34.3	32.2	2.1	6.1
November	34.0	31.6	2.4	7.0
December	33.7	31.3	2.4	7.1
1977 Avg.	34.8	32.1	2.7	7.7

Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	
		Number	Rate ^{2/}
<u>BOZEMAN LMA</u>			
23.3	21.4	1.9	8.3
23.5	21.7	1.8	7.8
24.1	22.4	1.7	7.3
24.2	22.7	1.5	6.1
24.3	23.1	1.2	4.9
25.4	24.3	1.1	4.4
25.6	24.5	1.1	4.4
26.6	25.6	1.0	3.7
25.3	24.4	.9	3.6
24.9	23.9	1.0	3.9
24.7	23.4	1.3	5.2
24.7	23.5	1.2	4.7
24.7	23.4	1.3	5.3

GLASGOW LMA

January	15.4	14.3	1.1	7.5
February	15.8	14.5	1.3	8.0
March	16.4	15.3	1.1	6.7
April	17.3	16.4	.9	5.0
May	17.7	16.8	.9	4.9
June	18.9	17.8	1.1	5.8
July	19.2	18.1	1.1	5.7
August	20.1	19.1	1.0	5.0
September	18.3	17.5	.8	4.5
October	17.0	16.3	.7	4.2
November	16.7	15.8	.9	5.5
December	16.6	15.7	.9	5.1
1977 Avg.	17.4	16.4	1.0	5.6

GLENDIVE LMA

	13.0	12.1	.9	6.9
	12.9	12.1	.8	6.1
	13.3	12.7	.6	4.9
	14.1	13.6	.5	3.7
	14.5	14.1	.4	2.8
	15.4	14.9	.5	3.4
	15.8	15.2	.6	3.5
	16.4	15.9	.5	2.8
	15.4	15.0	.4	2.4
	14.9	14.6	.3	2.2
	14.6	14.2	.4	3.0
	13.9	13.5	.4	3.1
	14.5	14.0	.5	3.7

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA

January	11.1	10.2	.9	8.5
February	11.0	10.2	.8	7.6
March	11.6	10.8	.8	6.6
April	12.0	11.4	.6	5.3
May	12.4	11.8	.6	4.7
June	13.2	12.6	.6	4.1
July	13.5	12.9	.6	4.4
August	14.1	13.5	.6	4.6
September	12.9	12.3	.6	4.5
October	11.8	11.3	.5	4.6
November	11.6	11.0	.6	5.6
December	11.4	10.7	.7	5.7
1977 Avg.	12.2	11.5	.7	5.4

HAVRE LMA

	12.0	11.1	.9	7.3
	12.1	11.3	.8	6.8
	12.6	11.8	.8	6.0
	12.9	12.3	.6	4.9
	13.1	12.6	.5	3.8
	13.9	13.2	.7	5.2
	14.3	13.7	.6	4.5
	14.8	14.2	.6	4.3
	13.9	13.4	.5	3.9
	13.3	12.8	.5	3.5
	13.3	12.8	.5	3.7
	13.0	12.4	.6	4.7
	13.2	12.6	.6	4.8

^{1/} Revised to latest Benchmarks.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

^{2/} Computed from whole (Unrounded)
numbers.

1977 MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY LABOR MARKET AREA^{1/}
Not Seasonally Adjusted
(In Thousands)

Month	Civilian	Employment	Unemployment		Civilian	Employment	Unemployment		
	Labor Force		Number	Rate ^{2/}	Labor Force		Number	Rate ^{2/}	
<u>HELENA LMA</u>					<u>KALISPELL LMA</u>				
Januray	23.8	22.2	1.6	6.5	30.6	26.7	3.9	12.7	
February	24.3	22.8	1.5	6.2	31.1	27.1	4.0	12.8	
March	24.9	23.3	1.6	6.3	31.7	27.6	4.1	13.1	
April	25.5	24.2	1.3	5.2	31.8	28.2	3.6	11.3	
May	25.5	24.3	1.2	4.8	32.3	29.4	2.9	9.1	
June	26.6	25.2	1.4	5.3	33.6	30.7	2.9	8.7	
July	26.8	25.4	1.4	5.2	34.1	31.5	2.6	7.8	
August	27.3	25.9	1.4	5.2	35.2	32.5	2.7	7.7	
September	26.7	25.4	1.3	5.0	33.5	31.0	2.5	7.3	
October	26.2	25.0	1.2	4.5	32.7	30.1	2.6	7.9	
November	26.0	24.6	1.4	5.5	32.6	29.8	2.8	8.6	
December	26.0	24.6	1.4	5.4	32.4	29.5	2.9	9.0	
1977 Avg.	25.8	24.4	1.4	5.4	32.6	29.5	3.1	9.6	
<u>LEWISTOWN LMA</u>					<u>MILES CITY LMA</u>				
January	9.5	8.7	.8	8.5	14.2	13.2	1.0	7.1	
February	9.5	8.7	.8	8.8	14.2	13.3	.9	6.5	
March	10.0	9.3	.7	7.3	14.7	13.9	.8	5.6	
April	10.5	9.9	.6	5.2	15.1	14.5	.6	4.0	
May	10.9	10.4	.5	4.7	15.4	14.8	.6	3.7	
June	11.8	11.2	.6	5.3	16.0	15.3	.7	4.1	
July	12.2	11.7	.5	3.9	16.3	15.7	.6	3.9	
August	12.8	12.3	.5	3.5	17.1	16.5	.6	3.5	
September	11.4	11.0	.4	3.2	15.6	15.1	.5	3.4	
October	11.1	10.7	.4	3.8	15.4	14.9	.5	3.5	
November	10.4	10.0	.4	4.2	15.2	14.5	.7	4.7	
December	10.2	9.6	.6	6.1	14.5	13.8	.7	5.0	
1977 Avg.	10.9	10.3	.6	5.2	15.3	14.6	.7	4.5	
<u>MISSOULA LMA</u>					<u>SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA</u>				
January	42.5	38.0	4.5	10.5	15.2	13.9	1.3	8.3	
February	43.1	38.8	4.3	10.0	15.3	14.1	1.2	7.6	
March	43.8	39.7	4.1	9.4	16.0	14.9	1.1	6.9	
April	45.2	41.4	3.8	8.4	16.9	15.9	1.0	5.7	
May	45.3	42.0	3.3	7.3	17.5	16.7	.8	4.8	
June	46.7	43.4	3.3	7.1	19.5	18.5	1.0	5.3	
July	47.9	44.6	3.3	6.8	19.9	18.9	1.0	5.1	
August	49.0	45.7	3.3	6.7	20.8	19.8	1.0	4.8	
September	47.6	44.5	3.1	6.5	19.0	18.1	.9	4.7	
October	47.1	44.1	3.0	6.3	17.6	16.7	.9	5.1	
November	47.3	44.1	3.2	6.8	16.9	15.9	1.0	6.0	
December	46.9	43.5	3.4	7.3	16.6	15.7	.9	5.6	
1977 Avg.	46.0	42.5	3.5	7.7	17.6	16.6	1.0	5.7	

^{1/} Revised to latest Benchmarks.

^{2/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE, BY COUNTY
1977 ANNUAL AVERAGES

AREA	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
BEAVERHEAD	4,465	4,303	162	3.6
BIG HORN	4,575	4,234	341	7.5
BLAINE	3,102	2,925	177	5.7
BROADWATER	1,417	1,342	75	5.3
CARBON	3,517	3,337	180	5.1
CARTER	962	935	27	2.8
CHOUTEAU	3,300	3,193	107	3.2
CUSTER	5,737	5,462	275	4.8
DANIELS	1,489	1,446	43	2.9
DAWSON	5,227	4,993	234	4.5
DEER LODGE	6,370	5,850	520	8.2
FALLON	2,173	2,121	52	2.4
FERGUS	5,494	5,187	307	5.6
FLATHEAD	19,154	17,388	1,766	9.2
GALLATIN	18,432	17,556	876	4.8
GARFIELD	940	911	29	3.1
GLACIER	5,158	4,714	444	8.6
GOLDEN VALLEY	476	451	25	5.3
GRANITE	1,106	1,004	102	9.2
HILL	8,991	8,560	431	4.8
JEFFERSON	2,959	2,752	207	7.0
JUDITH BASIN	1,296	1,251	45	3.5
LAKE	6,933	6,419	514	7.4
LEWIS and CLARK	21,428	20,318	1,110	5.2
LIBERTY	1,183	1,149	34	2.9
LINCOLN	6,558	5,708	850	13.0
McCONE	1,538	1,493	45	2.9
MADISON	2,456	2,330	126	5.1
MEAGHER	875	822	53	6.1
MINERAL	1,615	1,437	178	11.0
MISSOULA	33,228	30,917	2,311	7.0
MUSSELSHELL	1,876	1,742	134	7.1
PARK	5,412	5,032	380	7.0
PETROLEUM	344	338	6	1.7
PHILLIPS	2,767	2,626	141	5.1
PONDERA	3,628	3,445	183	5.0
POWDER RIVER	1,152	1,116	36	3.1
POWELL	3,213	2,991	222	6.9
PRAIRIE	1,048	1,019	29	2.8
RAVALLI	6,703	5,994	709	10.6
RICHLAND	5,098	4,926	172	3.4
ROOSEVELT	5,813	5,515	298	5.1
ROSEBUD	4,747	4,467	280	5.9
SANDERS	4,484	4,138	346	7.7
SHERIDAN	2,528	2,457	71	2.8
SILVER BOW	17,167	15,618	1,549	9.0
STILLWATER	2,548	2,449	99	3.9
SWEET GRASS	1,584	1,540	44	2.8
TETON	2,718	2,589	129	4.7
TOOLE	2,785	2,640	145	5.2
TREASURE	543	516	27	5.0
VALLEY	4,844	4,419	425	8.8
WHEATLAND	1,371	1,319	52	3.8
WIBAUX	662	641	21	3.2

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1976

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	95.3	95.3	96.4	98.5	100.1	101.3	102.1	103.0	103.6	103.6	104.1	104.1	100.7
Manufacturing	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.7	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0
Mining	.3	.3	1.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.8	.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	.8	1.0
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.5	23.2	24.0	25.4	26.4	27.1	28.4	28.3	28.5	27.4	27.5	27.7	26.4
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7
Services	27.7	27.9	28.1	28.5	28.7	29.6	30.0	30.5	30.4	30.1	30.2	30.1	29.3
Government ^{1/}	30.3	30.5	30.6	30.6	30.8	30.3	29.1	28.8	29.4	31.1	31.6	31.8	30.4

1977

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	103.2	103.8	105.8	107.0	105.9	109.8	109.2	111.7	114.2	113.9	114.5	114.8	109.5
Manufacturing	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.8	3.0
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.8	.7	.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	26.8	26.7	28.0	28.8	29.0	30.6	30.2	30.2	30.6	31.1	31.4	31.0	29.5
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.2
Services	30.5	30.7	31.1	31.4	31.3	32.4	32.6	32.6	33.1	32.4	33.1	33.2	32.1
Government ^{1/}	31.3	31.8	32.3	32.3	30.8	31.6	30.9	32.9	34.6	34.4	34.4	35.0	32.7

^{1/} Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Revised to 1976 Benchmark.
 Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NEW CORPORATIONS AND BUSINESSES IN MONTANA

By Industry and Area, for 1977

Industry	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	% of Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish	29	18	47	10	33	24	21	17	10	13	27	36	285	6.0
Mining	20	10	9	13	12	14	9	11	7	10	13	18	146	3.1
Construction	49	58	93	80	72	80	82	105	66	49	55	51	840	17.6
Manufacturing	8	13	20	27	25	19	13	21	20	8	21	15	210	4.4
Transp., Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	7	20	14	13	15	16	19	17	15	10	16	6	168	3.5
Wholesale, Retail	73	108	104	113	103	97	94	153	107	78	99	94	1,223	25.6
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	27	37	59	32	40	36	34	30	40	40	28	26	429	9.0
Services	109	118	140	117	126	102	92	117	115	118	131	111	1,396	29.3
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nonclassifiable Establishments	1	15	3	8	17	3	4	16	1	2	3	0	73	1.5
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
STATE TOTAL	323	397	489	413	443	391	368	487	381	328	393	357	4,770	100.0
Area	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
Multi-County and Statewide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cascade SMSA	27	49	70	49	47	29	38	64	36	26	38	35	508	10.6
Yellowstone SMSA	43	78	67	47	61	61	52	96	68	76	72	60	781	16.4
Anaconda-Butte LMA	39	26	35	24	22	40	21	21	28	20	19	19	314	6.6
Bozeman LMA	34	48	42	43	37	35	37	36	30	31	29	25	427	9.0
Glasgow LMA	13	11	4	13	17	10	12	17	7	5	16	14	139	2.9
Glendive LMA	6	5	20	18	22	13	12	19	12	15	11	10	163	3.4
Hardin LMA	5	9	10	12	8	13	9	8	9	5	6	8	102	2.1
Havre LMA	8	9	18	15	21	16	13	14	6	9	11	17	157	3.3
Helena LMA	15	33	42	33	34	39	24	42	28	24	33	34	381	8.0
Kalispell LMA	38	36	64	56	51	43	56	51	57	38	53	43	586	12.3
Lewistown LMA	7	13	10	6	8	12	14	9	8	7	7	5	106	2.2
Miles City LMA	11	12	13	9	14	10	14	14	11	11	12	13	144	3.0
Missoula LMA	51	56	63	78	79	55	56	82	71	53	66	47	757	15.9
Shelby LMA	26	12	31	10	22	15	10	14	10	8	20	27	205	4.3

U. S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

MONTANA

ANNUAL STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE REPORT FOR 1977

MARCH 1978

INDUSTRY	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	ANNUAL AVERAGE 1977	PERCENT CHANGE 1976-1977
(in Thousands)														
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	324.5	328.1	336.3	344.7	349.0	365.1	373.6	380.9	364.8	354.9	350.7	346.4	351.6	3.5
EMPLOYED PERSONS	296.9	301.3	310.8	322.8	329.7	343.9	353.0	361.0	346.7	337.1	331.0	326.0	330.0	5.2
Persons Employed in Agriculture	22.6	24.8	29.9	37.0	38.2	43.5	46.5	49.8	38.8	33.0	28.4	24.4	34.7	3.8
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	27.6	26.8	25.5	21.9	19.3	21.2	20.6	19.9	18.1	17.8	19.7	20.4	21.6	-17.2
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	8.5	8.2	7.6	6.3	5.5	5.8	5.5	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.6	5.9	6.1	7.7
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/}	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.5	5.4	6.0	6.6	6.3	6.1	5.8	5.8	6.1	7.7
--- NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data) ^{2/} ---														
246.5	248.3	261.0	266.0	269.8	269.8	268.5	268.5	276.9	276.5	271.9	271.2	269.7	283.7	5.0
--- MANUFACTURING ---														
23.9	24.0	23.6	24.0	24.1	24.7	24.1	24.1	24.8	24.7	24.4	24.3	23.7	24.2	2.1
Durable Goods	15.1	15.3	15.1	15.2	15.7	16.0	15.5	16.0	16.0	15.8	15.8	15.0	15.6	1.3
24 Lumber and Wood Products	9.1	9.2	8.8	8.9	9.1	9.5	10.0	9.8	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.3	2.2
33 Primary Metal Industries	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	-3.0
Other Durable Goods	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.8	3.1	2.5	3.0	3.4
Non-durable Goods	8.8	8.7	8.5	8.7	8.4	8.7	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.7	3.8
20 Food and Kindred Products	4.2	4.1	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.0	3.7
27 Printing and Publishing	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	5.0
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	8.3
Other Non-durable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5
--- MINING ---														
6.0	5.9	5.8	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.1	0
10 Metal Mining	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.0	-18.7
12 & 14 Bitum., Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.6
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.6	23.8
--- CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION ---														
10.8	11.5	12.5	14.7	15.5	15.5	18.4	17.7	18.5	18.6	18.2	17.9	15.3	15.6	13.0
15 General Building Contractors	3.8	4.0	4.2	5.2	5.6	6.2	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.1	5.7	4.8
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	2.5	2.8	3.5	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.5	3.4	4.6	18.8
17 Special Trade Contractors	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.5	5.9	6.1	5.0	6.0	5.8	5.3	21.0
--- TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES ---														
19.6	19.6	19.6	19.9	20.0	20.3	20.7	20.7	20.7	20.6	20.4	20.4	20.7	20.2	3.6
40 Railroad Transportation	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.3	3.2
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	5.8	5.9	5.8	6.1	6.2	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	1.7
48 & 49 Comm., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.8	7.6	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	7.9	8.1	7.8	5.4
--- WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE ---														
61.8	61.6	62.8	64.2	66.0	66.0	67.6	68.8	68.6	68.4	67.9	68.0	67.8	68.3	4.1
14.9	14.9	15.1	15.4	15.7	15.7	15.9	16.0	16.3	16.6	16.5	16.8	16.5	16.8	15.1
Wholesale Trade	46.9	46.7	47.8	48.8	50.3	51.7	52.8	53.3	52.8	51.4	51.2	51.4	50.4	3.7
Retail Trade	7.8	7.5	7.5	7.8	7.6	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	8.8	8.1	7.7
53 & 58 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	8.8	8.6	8.8	8.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.0	6.5
54 Food Stores	8.0	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.8	7.7
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	15.3	15.5	16.3	17.3	18.3	19.1	20.3	20.9	20.4	19.3	18.0	16.7	18.3	-6.0
58 Eating and Drinking Places	9.2	9.2	8.2	8.1	9.1	8.3	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.2	8.9
52, 57, 58 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Farm, Misc.	10.9	10.8	10.8	11.0	11.1	11.3	11.5	11.8	11.9	11.8	12.0	12.0	11.4	1.1
--- FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE ---														
46.1	46.6	47.1	47.8	48.1	48.1	50.2	51.3	51.1	51.3	51.1	50.2	50.3	49.3	5.6
SERVICES	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.6	6.0	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.0	7.2	6.3	3.1
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	4.0
72 Personal Services	14.9	14.9	15.0	15.2	15.2	16.0	15.8	16.1	16.1	16.1	15.8	16.0	15.6	2.5
80 Medical and other Health Services	23.7	24.1	24.4	24.6	24.8	25.1	25.4	25.0	25.2	25.0	24.7	24.5	24.8	4.7
Other Services	67.4	68.2	68.6	68.5	66.7	70.9	70.5	74.3	72.8	71.7	72.1	73.2	70.8	2.1
--- GOVERNMENT ---														
13.1	13.1	13.1	13.1	13.4	14.7	15.6	15.6	14.8	14.8	14.1	14.0	14.5	14.1	7.5
81 Federal Government	9.1	9.2	9.1	9.1	8.8	8.5	8.4	8.9	8.8	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.8	13.7
82 State Colleges and Universities	10.9	10.9	11.0	11.1	10.7	11.3	11.3	11.1	11.1	11.1	10.4	11.3	11.1	2.2
92 Other State Government	21.8	22.5	22.4	22.4	22.4	21.8	20.2	22.8	23.7	23.6	25.0	25.0	22.8	9.1
93 Local Education	12.5	12.5	12.6	12.8	13.4	14.6	14.6	15.2	13.9	13.7	13.7	13.5	13.6	6.7
93 Other Local Government	12.5	12.5	12.6	12.8	13.4	14.6	14.6	15.2	13.9	13.7	13.7	13.5	13.6	17.2

^{1/} Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes nonagricultural self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

^{2/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Produced in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, by Research and Analysis Division, Helena, Montana.

^{3/} 1972 Standard Industrial Classification. Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

GREAT FALLS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA)

Annual Labor Force Report
(In Thousands)

1976 1977

	1976 JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	1976 AVG.
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	30.5	30.6	31.8	32.2	32.7	34.3	33.9	34.0	33.0	33.0	33.1	31.0	32.5
EMPLOYED PERSONS	27.4	27.7	28.8	29.7	30.4	31.1	31.0	31.4	30.9	30.8	30.8	28.8	29.9
Persons Employed in Agriculture	.8	.9	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.3
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.1	2.9	3.0	2.5	2.3	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.6
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	10.3	9.5	9.5	7.8	7.1	9.4	8.4	7.7	6.5	6.7	6.9	7.0	8.0
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/}	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.2	7.7	8.6	8.5	8.5	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.2	8.0

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS^{3/}
(Establishment Data)

	25.5	25.7	25.9	27.1	27.6	28.1	27.8	28.1	28.1	28.2	28.4	28.3	27.4
Manufacturing	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Contract Construction	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	1.9	1.9
Transportation and Public Utilities	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	7.6	7.5	7.6	8.2	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.8	8.8	8.8	9.0	9.1	8.5
Wholesale Trade	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.4
Retail Trade	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.9	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.1
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6
Services and Mining	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1
Government	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.1	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9
Federal Government	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
State and Local Government	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9

	1977 JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	1977 AVG.
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	32.2	32.3	33.1	33.8	34.4	35.7	35.8	35.8	35.6	35.6	34.6	34.5	34.4
EMPLOYED PERSONS	29.6	30.1	30.9	32.0	32.6	33.7	33.8	33.8	33.6	33.6	32.8	32.4	32.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	.9	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.4
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.6	2.2	2.2	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.1	2.0
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	8.0	6.8	6.7	5.4	5.2	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.3	6.0	5.9
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/}	6.5	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.7	4.7	5.6	6.2	6.5	6.5	5.6	6.2	5.9

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS^{3/}
(Establishment Data)

	27.5	27.9	28.4	29.1	29.6	30.5	29.6	30.2	30.6	30.5	30.3	30.0	29.6
Manufacturing	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.3	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7
Contract Construction	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	1.8	2.0
Transportation and Public Utilities	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8
Wholesale and Retail Trade	8.7	8.7	8.8	9.4	9.7	9.9	10.1	10.1	10.2	10.1	10.2	10.2	9.7
Wholesale Trade	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.7
Retail Trade	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.7	6.9	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Services and Mining	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.4
Government	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.5	5.8	5.8	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.1
Federal Government	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
State and Local Government	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.3	3.6	3.6	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.0

^{1/} Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.^{2/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.^{3/} 1972 Standard Industrial Classification.

BILLINGS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(YELLOWSTONE COUNTY, MONTANA)

Annual Labor Force Report

(In Thousands)

	1976 JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	1976 AVG.
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	45.8	45.8	46.7	49.2	48.8	51.2	51.0	50.6	51.3	50.4	50.5	50.6	49.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	42.1	42.5	43.3	46.3	46.5	47.7	47.9	47.7	48.8	48.0	48.0	47.8	46.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.2	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.5
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.7	3.3	3.4	2.9	2.3	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.9
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	8.1	7.1	7.3	5.8	4.7	6.8	6.2	5.7	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.6	5.9
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/}	6.6	6.2	6.2	6.0	5.7	6.2	6.1	6.1	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.9

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS^{3/}

(Establishment Data)

	37.4	37.7	38.1	40.1	40.1	41.0	40.9	40.7	42.3	41.8	41.9	41.9	40.3
Manufacturing	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.2
Contract Construction	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.6
Transportation and Public Utilities	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	12.3	12.4	12.7	13.4	13.3	13.5	13.6	13.7	13.8	13.5	13.6	13.8	13.3
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4
Retail Trade	8.2	8.3	8.6	9.1	9.0	9.1	9.0	9.2	9.3	9.0	9.1	9.3	8.9
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9
Services and Mining	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.9	7.8	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.0
Government	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.7	7.2	6.9	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.5	7.6
Federal Government	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7
State and Local Government	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.7	6.0	5.3	5.1	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.7	5.9

	1977 JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	1977 AVG.
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	49.3	49.7	50.5	51.2	51.7	52.3	53.0	53.5	54.0	53.0	52.7	52.2	51.9
EMPLOYED PERSONS	46.1	46.7	47.8	48.9	49.5	50.1	50.8	51.3	51.9	50.9	50.6	50.0	49.5
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.7	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.3	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.6
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	6.5	6.1	5.4	4.5	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.6
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/}	5.2	5.3	4.4	4.7	5.1	3.6	3.9	4.4	4.6	4.9	4.4	4.2	4.6

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOB^{3/}

Establishment Data

	40.5	40.9	41.6	42.3	42.6	43.0	43.4	43.7	44.9	44.8	44.7	44.2	43.1
Manufacturing	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.6
Contract Construction	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.3	2.7	2.8
Transportation and Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	13.2	13.2	13.8	13.8	13.8	14.1	14.0	14.5	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.1	14.2
Wholesale Trade	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.6	5.1	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.0
Retail Trade	8.6	8.6	8.9	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
Services and Mining	7.9	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.3
Government	8.2	8.5	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.3	8.8	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.5
Federal Government	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.8
State and Local Government	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.3	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.7

^{1/} Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.^{2/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

^{3/} 1972 Standard Industrial Classification.

Produced in cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, by Research and Analysis, Employment Security Division, Helena, Montana.

MONTANA

HOURS AND EARNINGS SERIES BY MONTHS

Average Hours and Earnings in Private, Nonagricultural Industries 1977 (1)

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Avg.
TOTAL PRIVATE.....	\$175.94	\$176.00	\$174.94	\$178.69	\$184.79	\$185.26	\$190.97	\$200.28	\$197.89	\$202.65	\$190.85	\$210.37	\$189.38
MANUFACTURING.....	254.58	247.25	246.84	252.72	262.06	270.26	260.94	273.49	289.08	298.49	303.30	315.24	272.95
Durable Goods.....	257.83	248.63	246.19	254.00	265.44	277.78	269.51	278.42	297.79	312.58	309.29	217.95	277.75
Primary Metal Industries.....	289.87	287.38	274.06	296.70	287.60	287.96	286.86	281.94	279.82	310.06	308.83	313.94	291.65
Nondurable Goods.....	247.78	243.75	247.81	250.00	252.89	251.02	241.59	261.12	268.92	274.57	288.84	309.34	261.74
Food and Kindred Products.....	218.54	220.25	218.50	216.59	228.10	231.57	202.78	241.82	248.51	228.78	247.83	245.95	230.45
MINING.....	326.70	317.46	314.22	328.42	327.67	333.17	336.58	374.69	358.90	378.06	361.46	381.87	345.40
Metal Mining.....	318.10	291.85	290.48	310.70	302.48	324.32	332.88	437.96	392.96	434.07	403.60	450.11	359.72
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION.....	319.77	325.66	327.60	338.72	345.22	352.47	379.44	429.46	416.49	409.42	412.18	432.20	379.64
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES....	280.16	287.32	285.66	292.63	301.49	322.09	307.94	314.61	311.96	315.78	315.84	314.81	302.63
Commun., Elec., Gas, San. Services....	253.97	271.17	254.92	263.98	265.03	272.21	270.08	275.37	270.82	275.10	277.01	272.21	268.74
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE.....	143.59	145.52	143.55	146.48	151.01	149.63	158.35	163.45	150.33	157.74	156.13	156.13	153.72
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE....	131.39	131.32	126.91	131.02	131.38	128.43	130.67	129.78	134.30	139.48	142.01	143.93	133.21
SERVICES.....	107.68	109.82	109.07	109.35	109.59	109.96	113.02	111.80	118.59	117.41	118.40	134.52	113.84

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Avg.
TOTAL PRIVATE.....	35.4	35.2	35.2	34.9	34.8	34.5	35.3	35.7	35.4	35.0	34.7	35.9	35.2
MANUFACTURING.....	42.5	40.6	40.4	40.5	41.4	41.9	40.9	42.6	42.7	43.1	42.9	42.6	41.8
Durable Goods.....	43.7	41.3	41.1	41.3	42.0	43.0	41.4	43.3	43.6	44.4	43.5	43.2	42.6
Primary Metal Industries.....	41.0	40.2	38.6	40.7	40.0	39.5	37.4	37.0	35.6	39.7	39.9	40.3	39.2
Nondurable Goods.....	39.9	39.0	38.6	38.7	39.7	39.1	39.8	40.8	40.5	40.2	41.5	41.3	39.9
Food and Kindred Products.....	40.1	39.9	38.0	37.8	41.1	41.5	42.6	42.8	42.7	41.0	43.1	42.7	41.3
MINING.....	43.1	42.9	43.4	45.3	43.4	41.5	41.4	42.1	41.3	42.1	41.5	43.1	42.8
Metal Mining.....	42.3	40.2	40.4	42.1	39.8	39.6	38.0	41.2	38.3	39.0	40.0	43.7	40.6
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION.....	37.4	38.0	39.0	38.8	38.4	36.3	38.6	38.9	38.6	37.7	37.1	33.4	37.7
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES....	41.2	41.4	41.4	41.1	41.3	41.4	42.3	42.4	42.1	42.5	42.0	42.6	41.8
Commun., Elec., Gas, San. Services....	40.7	40.9	40.4	40.8	40.9	42.6	42.6	42.3	41.6	42.0	41.1	42.8	41.6
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE.....	34.6	33.3	33.0	31.3	31.2	32.6	34.2	35.0	34.4	33.0	32.8	32.8	33.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE....	36.7	37.2	37.0	36.7	36.8	36.8	36.5	37.4	37.1	36.9	36.6	37.3	36.9
SERVICES.....	29.5	29.6	29.4	28.7	29.7	29.4	29.9	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.6	33.8	29.8

AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Avg.
TOTAL PRIVATE.....	\$4.97	\$5.00	\$4.97	\$5.12	\$5.31	\$5.37	\$5.41	\$5.61	\$5.59	\$5.79	\$5.50	\$5.86	\$5.38
MANUFACTURING.....	5.99	6.09	6.11	6.24	6.33	6.45	6.38	6.42	6.77	6.98	7.07	7.40	6.53
Durable Goods.....	5.90	6.02	5.99	6.15	6.32	6.46	6.51	6.43	6.83	7.04	7.11	7.36	6.52
Primary Metal Industries.....	7.07	7.14	4.10	7.29	7.19	7.29	7.67	7.62	7.86	7.81	7.74	7.79	7.44
Nondurable Goods.....	6.21	6.25	6.42	6.46	6.37	6.42	6.07	6.40	6.64	6.83	6.96	7.49	6.56
Food and Kindred Products.....	5.45	5.52	5.75	5.73	5.55	5.58	4.76	5.65	5.82	5.58	5.75	5.76	5.58
MINING.....	7.58	7.40	7.24	7.25	7.55	7.98	8.13	8.90	8.69	8.98	8.71	8.86	8.07
Metal Mining.....	7.52	7.26	7.19	7.38	7.60	8.19	8.76	10.63	10.26	11.13	10.09	10.30	8.86
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION.....	8.55	8.57	8.36	8.73	8.99	9.71	9.83	11.04	10.79	10.86	11.11	12.94	10.07
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES....	6.80	6.94	6.90	7.12	7.30	7.78	7.28	7.42	7.41	7.43	7.52	7.39	7.24
Commun., Elec., Gas, San. Services....	6.24	6.63	6.31	6.47	6.48	6.39	6.34	6.51	6.51	6.55	6.74	6.36	6.46
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE.....	4.15	4.37	4.35	4.68	4.84	4.59	4.63	4.67	4.37	4.78	4.76	4.76	4.63
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE....	3.58	3.25	3.43	3.57	3.57	3.49	3.58	3.47	3.62	3.78	3.88	3.86	3.61
SERVICES.....	3.65	3.34	3.71	3.81	3.69	3.74	3.78	3.79	4.02	3.98	4.00	3.98	3.82

(1) Based on reports from cooperating establishments, and covers both full and part-time production and related workers who worked during or received pay for any part of the weekly pay period including the 12th of each month. Figures are average of gross earnings including overtime and premium pay. Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969. Prepared in cooperation with U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

LABOR TURNOVER RATES IN SELECTED MONTANA INDUSTRIES 1977

(Per 100 Employees by Calendar Year)

MANUFACTURING

	1977 Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1977 Avg.
Total Accessions	2.8	2.5	3.2	4.0	3.3	5.8	3.4	4.4	4.8	4.6	1.8	2.1	3.5
New Hires	1.7	1.8	2.6	3.0	2.6	4.8	3.2	4.0	4.3	4.4	1.3	1.7	2.9
Total Separations	2.2	3.1	3.9	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.7	4.7	5.5	3.5	4.1	1.9	3.3
Quits	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.8	1.5	1.9	1.5	2.7	3.6	2.0	1.3	1.0	1.7
Layoffs	.7	.7	2.0	.6	.9	.4	.6	.5	.6	.9	2.3	.5	.9

DURABLE GOODS

Total Accessions	3.1	2.4	3.2	4.1	3.5	5.8	3.7	4.1	3.6	1.9	1.4	1.7	3.2
New Hires	1.8	1.7	2.7	2.9	2.6	4.6	3.6	3.6	3.4	1.7	.8	1.3	2.5
Total Separations	2.7	2.4	2.4	3.1	2.5	2.6	2.6	5.3	5.9	2.5	2.3	1.6	3.0
Quits	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.9	1.2	1.6	1.5	2.6	3.8	1.3	.6	.6	1.5
Layoffs	1.0	.8	.9	.7	.7	.4	.4	.7	.5	.4	1.3	.5	.7

PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES

Total Accessions	2.2	2.5	4.8	2.6	4.3	5.9	1.9	2.3	3.1	1.4	1.0	2.5	2.9
New Hires	.8	1.1	4.0	2.4	.8	3.3	1.9	1.8	1.9	.8	.6	1.5	1.8
Total Separations	.7	1.6	3.5	2.5	3.7	2.0	1.8	6.6	6.4	2.0	3.0	1.3	2.9
Quits	.4	.5	.6	.8	.7	.6	1.2	1.6	3.2	.6	.5	.5	.9
Layoffs.....	*	.5	2.6	1.2	2.1	.5	*	3.0	1.2	.5	1.6	.4	1.1

NON-DURABLE GOODS

Total Accessions.....	2.1	2.7	3.0	3.9	2.8	6.0	2.7	5.0	6.9	9.7	2.6	2.8	4.0
New Hires.....	1.5	2.0	2.6	3.2	2.5	5.3	2.6	4.6	6.0	9.4	2.1	2.4	3.6
Total Separations.....	1.3	4.3	6.4	3.2	4.3	3.4	2.9	3.6	4.7	5.4	7.1	2.3	4.0
Quits.....	.7	2.4	1.8	1.6	2.0	2.3	1.5	2.9	3.2	3.2	2.4	1.6	2.1
Layoffs.....	.3	.5	3.9	.1	1.4	.3	.9	.1	.7	1.7	4.1	.4	1.2

MINING

Total Accessions.....	1.2	1.1	3.3	2.8	2.8	2.3	1.0	3.2	2.1	3.7	2.9	.4	2.2
New Hires.....	.8	.4	2.0	1.0	1.3	2.5	.8	2.3	1.6	2.6	.6	.1	1.2
Total separations.....	5.1	3.0	3.0	2.2	3.8	2.6	3.8	1.5	8.3	4.7	4.4	4.3	3.7
Quits.....	1.7	2.2	1.5	.5	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.1	6.4	3.2	2.8	3.2	2.2
Layoffs.....	2.9	.2	.7	1.0	.6	*	.1	.2	1.3	.9	.4	.4	.7

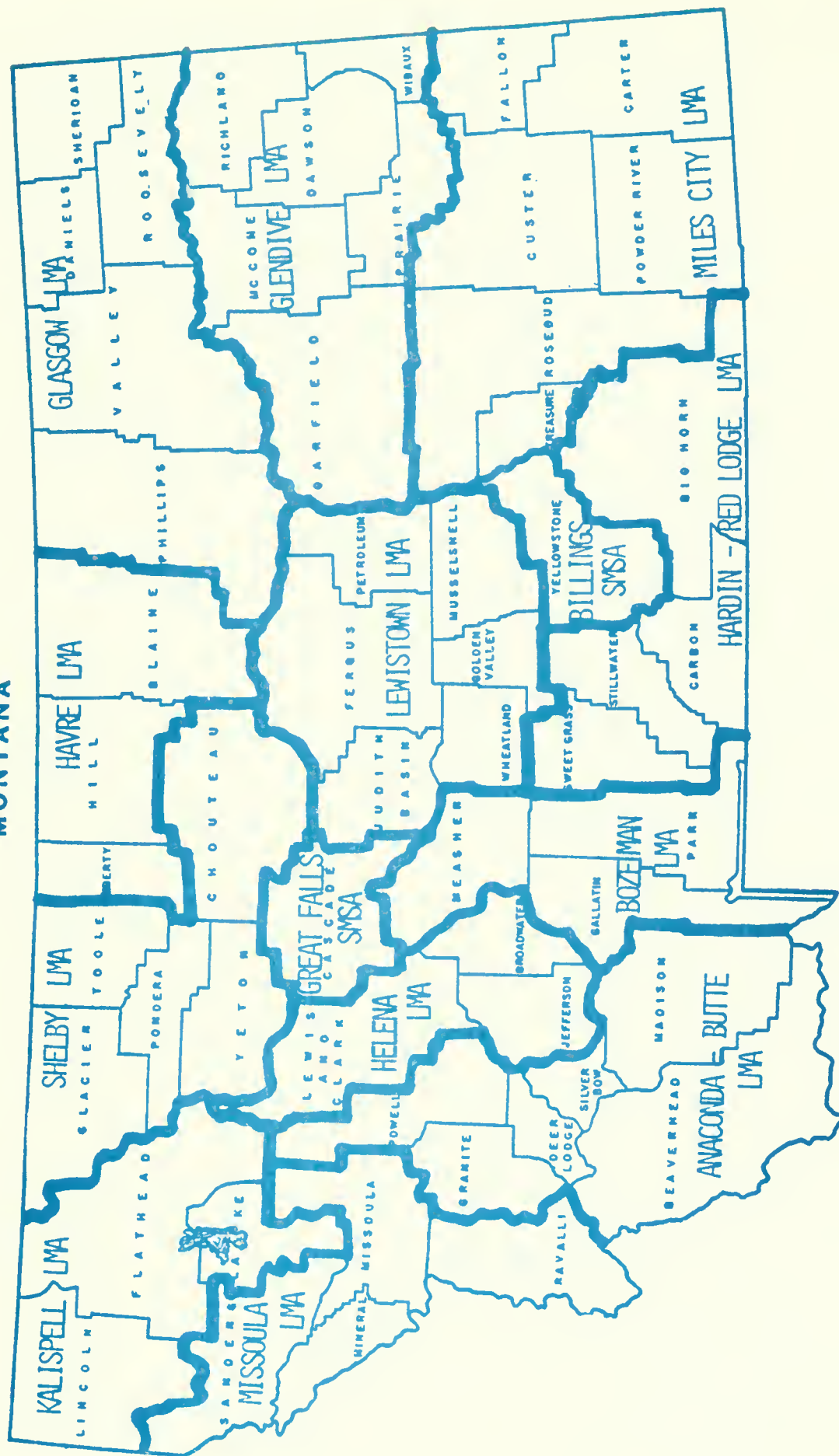
METAL MINING

Total Accessions.....	1.2	.6	3.0	4.2	2.8	2.5	2.0	2.2	1.5	2.0	1.8	1.2	2.0
New Hires	.1	*	*	.1	.1	.4	.8	.1	.1	.1	.1	.2	.1
Total Separations.....	8.5	2.0	3.3	1.3	2.1	1.4	12.9	.9	4.3	4.5	2.9	1.4	3.2
Quits.....	.1	*	.3	.1	.1	.4	1.2	.2	.3	.3	.1	.1	.2
Layoffs.....	7.0	.6	1.9	.1	.3	*	.5	.1	2.6	2.6	1.2	.3	1.6

* Less than .05 Prepared in cooperation with U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
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LABOR MARKET AREAS

IN
MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 23 local Job Service Offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.